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1996

Annual Reports **1996**

Town Officers

Town of
Freedom, New Hampshire

For The Fiscal Year Ending
December 31, 1996

Vital Statistics for 1996

Freedom Faithful



Ambrose Stuart, 1892-1987



John Stuart and Bill

In appreciation of the Stuart family's dedication to the
maintenance and care of the Drew Cemetery.

Annual Reports **1996**

Town Officers

Town of
Freedom New Hampshire

For The Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1996
Vital Statistics for 1996

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TOWN OFFICERS

Moderator: Donald G. Johnson, 1996

Town Clerk

A. Elizabeth Priebe, 1998

Treasurer

Ralph Kazanjian, 1998

Trustees of Trust Funds

Sally Stoops, 1997
Virginia Fastnacht, 1998
Elizabeth Godfrey, 1999

Conservation Commission

Susan Hoople, 1997
Tina Goode, 1997
Barry Keith, 1997
William Klotz, 1997
Alan Grant, 1998
Malcom Reed, Alt.

Planning Board

Hugh Priebe, 1997
Wendell Brooks, 1997
Martha Hall, 1998
Robert Houle, 1998
Brian Hampton, 1999
Eastham Hockmeyer, 1999

Fire Chief

Gene Doe, Jr.

Police Chief

John Pyne III

Animal Control Officer

Hugh Priebe

Administrative Assistant

Karen Hatch

Selectmen

Richard Goff, 1997
Mark Bittner, 1998
Robert Daly, 1999

Tax Collector

Thomas Kondrat, 1999

Town Auditor

Ernest Day, 1997

Library Trustees

H. Edward Reed, 1997
Mary Hockmeyer, 1998
Elizabeth Bossi, 1999

Road Agent

Scott Brooks, 1997

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Howard Bouve, 1997
Deborah Fauver, 1998
Paul Wheeler, 1998
Donald Bossi, 1998
Richard Day, 1999
John Krebs, Alternate
Frances Babcock, Alternate
Hugh Priebe, Alternate

Forest Fire Warden

Carroll A. Chase

Code Enforcement Officer

Paul Dorian

Town Building Custodians

Marion Sargent
Merton Sargent, Jr.
Cynthia Nason

Health Officer

Warren Anthony

Supervisors of the Checklist

Daniel Brooks, 1998; Albert Godfrey, 2000; Merton Sargent, Sr., 2002

RULES OF PROCEDURE

According to RSA 40, the Town Moderator determines the procedures to be used in Town Meetings. The Moderator determines the rules without regard to parliamentary or other procedural rules. The voters can overturn the Moderator's rules at any time, however. A motion to overturn the Moderator's rules, or establish new rules, will always take precedence to other business which is already "on the floor".

So that you will know the groundrules by which we are maintaining order, these procedural rules are announced to you ahead of time.

- The Moderator will read each article in its entirety before that article is considered.
- There can be no discussion until there has been a motion under the article. (usually the first motion is to approve the article as it appears on the warrant)
- All motions must be seconded by a different individual.
- Discussion will only take place after a motion has been moved and seconded.
- All discussion must take place only when called upon by the Moderator. You must have permission from the Moderator before you can speak.
- When the Moderator recognizes you, standup, speak out loudly and announce your name before proceeding with your comments.
- If you want to change a portion of a motion, you can do so by making an amendment. We will consider only one move to amend at any given time. When discussion regarding an amendment comes to a conclusion, the amendment will be voted upon. If the amendment passes we will then continue considering the original motion as it has now been amended. If the amendment fails, we will return to considering the motion in its form prior to the motion to amend.
- A secret written ballot will be used on any article when requested by any 5 voters in writing (RSA 40:4-a).
- A vote will be re-tabulated by secret written ballot when requested in writing or orally by only 7 voters (RSA 40:40b). This action must be requested before we have already moved onto the next item of business.

One final word of advice from your Moderator: If you want to get action from the Town Meeting, you have to make a motion. It's okay to get up and ask a question or make a comment (as long as it's relevant to what's on the table), but if you want the Town Meeting to discuss and vote on your idea, you have to get it on the table with a motion. Let's work together to have a successful and efficient meeting.

Thank you
Donald Johnson, Moderator

TOWN MEETING - MARCH 12, 1996

The Moderator, Donald Johnson, opened the polls at 9:00 a.m. in the downstairs of the Town Hall, after swearing in all of the election officials, namely: Robert Fowler, Carroll Chase, David Buswell, Sue Brown and Alice Haslett, then immediately proceeded upstairs to open Town Meeting.

The Moderator opened the meeting by explaining the rules of procedure, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, and the introduction of the Town Officials, noting that the polls would be open downstairs from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing Town and School Officials and for deciding the two written ballot items. Mr. Johnson also announced that at the Annual Freedom School District Meeting held the night before, the budget of \$1,317,901.00 had been approved.

ARTICLE 1: (To vote by Official Ballot).

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

For the purposes of these Minutes, the election results are included herein as follows:

The day started with 866 voters on the checklist, 34 people registered the day of the election and voted, making the total 900. We had a total of 548 people voting, for what is believed to be a record 61%.

TOWN BALLOT:

SELECTMAN:	.....	William O. Cutler	208
	.....	Robert J. Daly, Jr.	324
TAX COLLECTOR:	.....	Elmer B. Killam	118
	.....	Thomas Z. Kondrat	399
SUPERVISOR OF THE CHECKLIST:	.....	William O. Cutler	153
	.....	Elmer B. Killam	48
	.....	Merton H. Sargent, Sr.	331
MODERATOR:	.....	Donald G. Johnson	486
PLANNING BOARD:	.....	Brian L. Hampton	301
(Vote for 2)	.....	Eastham Hockmeyer	325
	.....	Elmer B. Killam	148
LIBRARY TRUSTEE:	.....	Elizabeth L. Bossi	473
TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS - 3 YEARS:	.....	Elizabeth R. Godfrey	292
	.....	H. Edward Reed	221
TRUSTEE OF TRUST FUNDS - 2 YEARS:	.....	Virginia Fastnacht	433
ROAD AGENT:	.....	Scott N. Brooks	245
	.....	Roy L. Eldridge	178
	.....	Hugh W. Priebe	123
TOWN AUDITOR:	.....	Ernest F. Day	463

SCHOOL DISTRICT BALLOT:

MODERATOR:	.....	Donald G. Johnson	478
SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK:	.....	Laura McVey -write-in*	7

(*There were 29 other write-ins for one or two votes each.)

AUDITOR:	.....	Thomas Z. Kondrat	438
SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER:	.....	Warren W. Anthony, Jr.	455
TREASURER:	.....	Ralph E. Kazanjian	458

ARTICLE 2: (To Vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Freedom Flood Plain Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board.

The Official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the Office of the Town Clerk and will be on display on the day of the meeting. The following question is on the Official Ballot:

"Are you in favor of the adoption of an amendment of the Flood Plain Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board?

This amendment is mandated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to use the new Flood Insurance Rate Maps of July 5, 1995, to determine special flood hazard areas and the application of the Flood Plain Ordinance."

RESULTS: 405 YES 79 NO

ARTICLE 3: (To Vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the exemption for the totally and permanently disabled, as provided in RSA 72:37-b. The following question is on the Official Ballot:

"Shall we adopt an exemption for the totally and permanently disabled? The exemption, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers shall be \$20,000. To qualify the person must have been a New Hampshire resident for at least five years and own and occupy the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by a spouse, they must have been married for at least 5 years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$12,000 or, if married, a combined net income of not more than \$20,000, and own net assets not in excess of \$30,000, excluding the value of the person's residence."

(If approved, the exemption takes effect April 1, 1996.)

RESULTS: 406 YES 93 NO

ARTICLE 4:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following sums of money:

Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 17,105.00
Town Officers' Expenses .....	.54,030.00
Election and Registration .....	.4,400.00
Town Hall and Other Town Buildings .....	.13,380.00
Planning and Zoning Boards .....	.1,725.00
Conservation Commission .....	.350.00
Legal Fees .....	.11,000.00
Town Needy .....	.3,500.00
Unemployment Compensation .....	.1,050.00

FICA/MED Tax	12,400.00
Insurance	42,678.00
Codes Officer	4.100.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 165,718.00

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Robert Daly

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 4: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 5:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the continuation of the safety program.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

Richard Goff made a MOTION TO AMEND the wording of the Article to include the words: "and emergency management programs"; SECONDED by Mark Bittner.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: YES, unanimous.

Discussion on Article 5 as amended to read: "To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for the continuation of the safety program and emergency management programs.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 5 as Amended: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 6:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following sums of money:

Town Maintenance of Highways	\$213,411.00 *
General Expense of Highway Dept. . . .	37,700.00
Cemeteries	3,750.00
Street Lights	8,000.00
Old Home Week & Memorial Day	1,765.00
Ballfield, Tennis Court & Beaches	2,250.00
Bond & Interest, Tax Note Interest	118,480.00
Water Precinct	1.000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 386,356.00

*This appropriation will be reduced by the estimated State Highway Block Grant of \$47,945.00, with the balance to be raised from taxes, per Department of Revenue Administration.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

Discussion. Bud Brooks questioned why the budget had been overspent

last year, and Mark Bittner, Selectman, noted that the health insurance voted in last year for the town employees had been a separate warrant article and had not been included in the budget.

Bud requested that next year a separate line item for the insurance be included in the Town Report to make it clearer, and so that the townspeople could see if the insurance costs were going up or down.

The Selectmen agreed that could be done.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 6: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 7:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,900.00 to purchase a 1996 GMC 1-ton diesel with a 2.5 yard dump body and a 9' fisher plow, snofoil and cutting edge.

MOVED: Hugh W. Priebe

SECONDED: Charles Reed

Hugh Priebe made a MOTION TO AMEND Article 7 by inserting the words "4 x 4" after "1996 GMC 1 ton"; SECONDED by Warren Anthony.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: YES, unanimous.

Discussion on Article 7 as amended. Justin Brooks asked why the capital reserve fund for the highway fund was not being used - the Selectmen responded that it could be with an amendment.

Tom Kondrat suggested that a list be put in the Town Report of all the equipment owned by the town - list of assets of \$1000.00 and over, and questioned the general replacement policy.

It was noted that this new truck would replace the 1987 red 1 ton which is worn out - \$13,000 spent in repairs over the last 2 years.

George Boewe, Jr. questioned the Town about a plan, using Eaton as an example, so that the vehicles would be traded in on a regular basis and would still have trade-in value.

Dan Murray MADE A MOTION TO AMEND the Article by adding the words: "and to take \$15,000.00 out of the capital reserve fund to offset the cost of this truck"; SECONDED by William Cutler.

Several spoke out against this amendment.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: NO, motion defeated by a majority.

Discussion on Article 7 in its original amended "4 x 4" form.

Bud Brooks discussed changing the Article so as not to be locked in to a GMC; and questioned the amount stated on Page 74 of the Town Report as being held in the capital reserve fund - says \$18,418.13... The Moderator explained that he would have to have a motion on the floor to discuss that any further.

Bud Brooks MADE A MOTION TO AMEND the Article to add the words: "to remove \$18,418.13 from the capital reserve fund to offset the cost of the truck"; SECONDED by Adrienne Brooks.

Discussion.

Bud Brooks asked for an explanation of the amount in the capital reserve fund - why only \$18,000, when \$15,000 voted to be placed in this fund last year?

Betty Godfrey - one of the Trustees of the Trust Funds, explained that the \$15,000.00 voted to be placed in the capital reserve fund never came to the trustees - the Trustees were told it was a wash.

Ralph Kazanjian asked that if the capital reserve fund held the \$18,000 plus the \$15,000, why not just withdraw all of the money and pay for the whole truck?

Richard Goff, Selectman, asked Betty Godfrey what the correct figure was in the capital reserve fund. She responded that as of December 31, 1995, there was \$18,418.13 in a CD in the First National Bank of Portsmouth (formerly the North Conway Bank).

Mark Bittner, Selectman, explained that the money from Article 12 last year was used in the purchase of the backhoe - so it never went in to the capital reserve fund, was spent and was a wash, and stated that there is not \$32,000 in the capital reserve fund, only the \$18,418.13.

Betty Godfrey noted that it would be less confusing if the money were to go in to the capital reserve fund and then came right back out.

Betty Godfrey also noted that it would make more sense to alter the language of the article to include "plus accrued interest", so as not to leave the account with a small balance.

The Moderator checked with Bud Brooks, who made the amendment motion, and with Adrienne Brooks, who had seconded the motion, and it was agreed to make a "friendly change".

VOTE ON ARTICLE 7 AS AMENDED TWICE:

"To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,900 to purchase a 1996 GMC 1 ton 4 x 4 diesel with a 2.5 yard dump body and a 9' fisher plow, snofoil and cutting edge; and to withdraw the sum of \$18,418.13 plus accrued interest from the highway capital reserve fund to offset the cost of the truck."

VOTE: YES, by majority, to amend.

Discussion, re: bid specs, limiting truck to GMC, putting the truck out to bid again.

Don Silke made a MOTION TO AMEND the Article to take out the word "GMC"; SECONDED by Deborah Frock.

Tom Kondrat spoke against the amendment and recommended that the

whole article be shortened to say just “replacement vehicle”.

VOTE ON MOTION TO FURTHER AMEND: NO, by majority.

Discussion.

Tom Kondrat MADE A MOTION TO AMEND the Article by changing the wording to:

“To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,900.00 to purchase a replacement vehicle for the 1987 Chevy dump truck and to take \$18,418.13 plus accrued interest from the capital reserve fund to offset the cost of the truck.”

SECONDED by Ralph Kazanjian.

Mert Sargent asked: “what about the plow? What about the cart? You’ve just voted to only purchase a truck....

Tom Kondrat felt that the intent of the voters would take care of that; Don Johnson, the Moderator, inserted a word of caution & reminded the voters that the minutes would reflect a vote to purchase a truck and if somebody questioned later on why a plow was purchased etc., it could present a problem.

VOTE ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT: NO, by majority.

Hugh Priebe MOVED the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, unanimous.

VOTE ON Article 7 as amended to its final version of:

“To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,900 to purchase a 1996 GMC 1 ton 4 x 4 diesel with a 2.5 yard dump body and a 9’ fisher plow, snofoil and cutting edge; and to withdraw the sum of \$18,418.13 plus accrued interest from the highway capital reserve fund to offset the cost of the truck.”

VOTE ON ARTICLE 7 in final amended version: YES, by majority.

ARTICLE 8:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$27,500.00 to apply hot top to Town roads.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

Discussion. Questions were asked regarding scheduling - Selectmen and road crew responded and it was noted that there are “trouble spots” that take priority - Town tries to take care of at least 3/10 of a mile per year. Questions were asked regarding the petitioned Article 32 for the paving of Youngs Hill, and would that expense be included in this money for Article 8, or in addition to. It was noted by the Selectmen that if the Article passes in its present form, they have received a bid of \$18,000 from Larry Miles for that section of road - which was on the “trouble spot list” any-

way, and the money would be included in this \$27,500. It was also noted that Article 32 could be amended to include a dollar amount and additional money could be raised. The present plan was to use the \$18,000 for the Youngs Hill paving, if the Article passes, which would leave \$9,500 for the road crew for paving other areas, and it was also noted that was a sufficient amount.

Ralph Kazanjian MOVED the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: Yes, by majority.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 8: YES, by majority.

ARTICLE 9:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,500.00 to seal Town roads.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Robert Daly

Discussion. It was noted that the roads already paved needed sealing and that this was an average cost each year.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 9: YES, by majority.

ARTICLE 10:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000.00 to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

Selectmen: For X Against

MOVED: Robert Daly

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 10: YES, by majority.

ARTICLE 11:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$30,300.00 for the General Fire Department to be used as listed:

Chief's Expenses	\$1,500.00
Turnout Gear	1,000.00
Mutual Aid dues	3,000.00
Equipment	7,000.00
Training	2,200.00
Maintenance	15,600.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 30,300.00

MOVED: Dan Murray

SECONDED: Gene Doe

Fire Chief Gene Doe answered questions regarding maintenance and equipment costs.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 11: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 12:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000.00 for Forest Fire Protection wages. This amount is matched with State funds.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Robert Daly.

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 12: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 13:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,000.00 for Firemen's cash bonuses.

MOVED: Dan Murray

SECONDED: Robert Daly

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 13: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 14:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for equipment and supplies for First Responders.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Dan Murray

Selectman Mark Bittner asked what the money would be used for and Chris Barnickel, the Captain of the Rescue Squad, responded and explained for equipment, general maintenance expenses, and vaccinations.

Mr. Bittner asked what the intent was - started out as a first response team, now seems to be a full blown rescue squad? Mr. Barnickel answered yes - but as a part of the fire department. Chief Doe said the intent was to give immediate first aid and to stabilize - not trying to replace Lord's Ambulance, and not intending to transport, and explained the importance of immediate action.

Ralph Kazanjian MOVED the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: Yes, unanimous.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 14: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 15:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$230,000.00 to purchase a new fire truck, and to withdraw \$128,000 from the Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund and designate the Selectmen as agents of the Town to expend such funds for this purchase, and the balance of this appropriation to be raised by taxes.

MOVED: Ralph Kazanjian

SECONDED: Dan Murray

Gene Doe made a MOTION TO AMEND this Article down to \$217,955.00 and to withdraw the sum of \$128,859.43 plus accrued interest from the Capital Reserve Fund...

SECONDED: George Boewe, Jr.

No discussion on amendment.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: YES, unanimous.

Discussion on Article 15 as amended.

Deborah Frock inquired if the new truck would fit in the fire station - and was assured that it would!

Tom Kondrat asked how old the truck was we were replacing and suggested a review of the whole strategy so that the voters could be sure we were replacing the right vehicle etc.

Chief Doe responded that the truck we were replacing is a 1972 that has undergone extensive repairs and more were needed; Justin Brooks explained that when the truck was refurbished several years ago they were told it would be good for another 8-10 years, and that has been the case. More repairs will be very expensive.

Tom Kondrat asked when the last replacement had taken place. Chief Doe explained Engine 4 in 1989; and if this new truck passes, the Fire Department won't be back for at least 2 years with a request.

Frank Westerhoff questioned Article 16 and was advised by Chief Doe that he would recommend Article 16 be voted done to zero if the truck article passes - that the Fire Department was not looking for both.

The Moderator announced at the end of the discussion that he had a written request for this Article to be decided by a written ballot vote. We then proceeded to vote:

126	Voters Total:	.....	92	Yes
.....		.....	33	No
.....		.....	1	Blank ballot
			126	Total

ARTICLE 15 CARRIES.

ARTICLE 16:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund.

Selectmen: For X Against

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

Gene Doe made a MOTION TO AMEND this Article down to 0 and urged the people to vote against... Dick Surrette made a

MOTION to pass over; no second.

Mark Bittner made a MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, unanimous.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 16: NO by majority.

ARTICLE 17:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$59,003 00 for the Police Department.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Ralph Kazanjian

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 17: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 18:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$32,649.00 for the salary and benefits of a police officer.

Comment: The Town will obtain a grant of \$30,000.00 from the Federal COPS Grant program and the cost to the Town will be \$2,649.00.

MOVED: Robert Daly

SECONDED: Alan Davidson

The Selectmen asked Chief Jack Pyne to speak to this Article. Chief Pyne explained that he had applied for and obtained the grant money, which was a gift to the town from the Federal government. The amount in the Article represents a full time salary for one police officer for a full year. The Town would only need to raise the \$2,649.00. Chief Pyne explained that this grant would last for three (3) years, and it was hoped that the towns that received the grant monies would keep the additional officers on after the grant term expires.

Malcolm Reed asked if there was any penalty if the Town did not keep on the additional officer - and Chief Pyne explained that there would not be. Charles Reed asked if the Town would be hiring another man - and Chief

Pyne explained that Officer Charles Pearson, who had been part time, had now been made full time, and that this would eliminate a lot of the part time hours.

Betty Godfrey pointed out that this is what is known as an "incentive grant".

Alan Davidson made a MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: Yes, unanimous.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 18: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 19:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$19,742.00 for the purchase of a police cruiser to replace the 1990 police cruiser.

MOVED: Ralph Kazanjian

SECONDED: Robert Daly

It was explained that the police cruisers are on a three-year replacement schedule.

Alan Davidson pointed out the need for the town to have two policemen and two cruisers to provide adequate protection.

No further discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 19: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 20:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate for the operation of the Town transfer Station the sum of \$68,150.00 as follows:

Cost of Operation:	\$ 58,150.00
Engineering Services and Analytical Fees	<u>10,000.00</u>
	Total \$68,150.00

MOVED: Robert Daly

SECONDED: Richard Goff

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 21: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 21:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$2,000.00 to purchase a 15 cubic yard rolloff container to collect newspapers and magazines.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

Selectman Goff explained that a \$2500.00 box had been rented for \$500.00 and this would pay the remainder.

Betty Godfrey inquired about revenue and Selectman Goff said it was negligible.

Tom Kondrat commended the Selectmen for closing the dump expeditiously and saving the town money.

It was noted that Effingham had spent approximately \$136,000.00 so far to close its dump.

It was noted that this container would take catalogs, too.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 21: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 22:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$16,266.00 for Freedom's share of the Ossipee Lake Dam Authority expenses for 1996.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner.

Discussion.

A voice from the crowd requested that we "MOVE THE DAM QUESTION" - and when the Town Clerk asked the Moderator "who made that motion?" - it was noted that it was the Reverend Bob Cedar!

No further discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 22: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 23:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,740.00 for the following purposes:

Huggins Hospital	\$ 1,100.00
Carroll County Mental Health	1,250.00
Children Unlimited .....	.475.00
Community Action Program	1,250.00
Children's Health Center	1,265.00
Visiting Nurse Service	1,100.00
Family Health Center	1,120.00
Domestic Violence .....	.500.00
Red Cross .....	.480.00
Big Brother/Sister .....	.200.00
Animal Control	2,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 10,740.00

MOVED: Robert Daly

SECONDED: Eve Klotz

Joyce Silke asked why the hospital was listed.

Selectman Goff explained that the Town had been requested by the

Hospital to include this on the warrant.

Deb Frock asked about the Red Cross money - noted that it was voted down last year. Selectman Mark Bittner said it had been voted down last year because it was felt that the Red Cross didn't or couldn't serve Freedom, but the Selectmen made contact with the Red Cross in Laconia, a representative had been to Freedom, and that the Red Cross can and will provide services in Freedom including first aid, emergency management etc.

Bonnie Ainsworth questioned the \$2000.00 for animal control and wondered if the vaccination shots were included again. The Animal Control Officer, Hugh Priebe, explained that he'd had the shots - this money is for out of town mileage, hourly wage and animal housing.

No further discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 23: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 24:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,000.00 for ambulance service.

MOVED: Robert Daly.

SECONDED: Mark Bittner.

Betty Godfrey made a MOTION TO AMEND the Article by inserting the word "Lord's" Ambulance... SECONDED by Edith Goodwin.

The Selectmen said it was a good amendment and recommended the amendment.

VOTE ON THE MOTION TO AMEND: YES, unanimous.

No further discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 24 AS AMENDED: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 25:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,810.00 for dues to the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 25: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 26:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$10,200.00 as requested by the Library Trustees to provide and maintain adequate library services for the Freedom Public Library.

MOVED: Robert Daly

SECONDED: Bonnie Ainsworth

No discussion.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 26: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 27:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000.00 for the purpose of completing the Enhanced 911 program.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Robert Daly.

Questions were asked of the Selectmen: (a) regarding the new maps: in progress, probably another 6-8 weeks. (b) Notification? Yes. (c) \$6,000.00 raised last year for signs etc., why more money? Numbers - if the town is asking people to use the numbers, the town has to provide the numbers. (d) Annual cost? Fee is on the phone bills now. (e) Would copies of the map be available? Yes, but they are going to be very large - wall size. Maybe smaller versions could be printed.

Alan Davidson MADE A MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, unanimous.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 27: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 28:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$500.00 for the Mount Washington Valley Economic Council to be raised in conjunction with other funds to conduct economic development activity designed to retain and expand local employment opportunities for the 12 towns it services.

MOVED: Robert Daly

SECONDED: Ralph Kazanjian

Betty Godfrey spoke against the article - feels this is a North Conway - Conway institution and won't help Freedom.

Marge Conrey spoke on behalf of the article - she is Freedom's member on the Council and noted it is the Council's goal to establish businesses and industries in Towns.

Selectman Bittner noted that there are now and would be additional employment opportunities in Conway for local residents.

Tom Kondrat noted that a couple of years ago this had been in the Warrant and shot down - would this be a one shot deal? Marge Conrey said "Yes".

Ralph Kazanjian MADE A MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: Yes, by majority.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 29: YES, by majority - declared by the Moderator (voice vote).

Tom Kondrat challenged the vote. The Moderator, Don Johnson, announced to the meeting that the vote had been challenged, and because he had already declared the results, we now had to proceed with a Written Ballot.

A written ballot was taken. 92 Total Votes were cast. The results were:

44 YES 48 NO

The Moderator declared that Article 28 was defeated.

At approximately 12:00 noon, Hugh Priebe MADE A MOTION to adjourn for a 20 minute lunch break; seconded by Warren Anthony.

VOTE ON MOTION TO ADJOURN: NO, motion defeated by a majority.

ARTICLE 29:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$10,000.00 to construct a multi-purpose rink on town property as approved by the Parks and Recreation Committee and the Board of Selectmen.

MOVED: Ralph Kazanjian

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

Questions were asked of Hugh Priebe, Chairman of the Committee: (a) Where would this rink be built? At the Ballfield. (b) All purpose? In-line skating, ice skating, basketball.

Bud Brooks inquired where this was going - were we going to end up with a full blown recreation department? A paid athletic department? Mr. Priebe said they are not going that route - not a director - committee to oversee the recreational lands.

Barbara Coit asked about the area by Camp Cody. Selectman Bittner replied that the construction was not yet started; not approved; land in current use - extremely premature.

Bonnie Ainsworth asked about the time for completion of the town's rink. Mr. Priebe said they have the bids, need to schedule with the company and the committee will have to have a work session to put up the boards - plans for this summer.

Glad Works, Phyllis Mayhew and Molly Vestner all spoke in favor of the article, citing numerous problems and potential dangers of the children playing in the village streets and the traffic hazards. Barbara Pelton, as a parent, spoke strongly in favor of the article. Deborah Frock also spoke in favor of the article.

Alan Davidson MADE A MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, by majority.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 29: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 30: (By petition)

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$31,500.00 for expenses relating to rehabilitating the Village Store property acquired by tax collector's deed, for the purpose of resale. Rehabilitation will include the removal of the gas pumps and underground fuel storage tanks, the installation of a septic holding tank, repair of the roof and a general cleanup of the buildings and grounds. Such rehabilitation shall be managed by the Board of Selectmen. Further, the Board of Selectmen shall be authorized to sell this property by auction or sealed bids or by any other businesslike method as authorized by RSA 80:42, III, and to set a minimum amount for which the property may be sold.

Comment: The Village Store property is in default for unpaid real estate taxes. The town has refused a tax collector's deed because of possible environmental problems. If this article is approved, the Board of Selectmen will request the tax collector to deed the property to the town.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Robert Daly

Richard Goff asked for permission for Peter Case to speak on this issue.

Julie Coates was quite concerned about EPA issues and pointed out there had been tanks at that location since 1929.

Justin Brooks questioned legalities. The Selectmen said the issue had been reviewed by the Town's attorney and said to see the "Comment" included.

Bud Brooks asked who owns the store at this time? Selectman Goff said Ian Atherton. Bud noted that the pumps and tanks may still be the property of the fuel company.

Peg Scully spoke on behalf of the article and noted this was a chance to rehabilitate the store.

Betty Godfrey cautioned about unknown contamination.

Julie Coates stated that she had spoken at length with the EPA and that the Selectmen can request the current deed holder to remove the tanks.

Gail Bickford noted that if this Article did not go forward etc., she would like to hear suggestions for a constructive alternative.

Laurie Morrow explained to the meeting that she had tried to purchase the property six years ago for \$50,000.00 and had an extensive building survey done on the property and had been prepared to put another \$100,000.00 in to the property for restoration and repairs at that time - major problems with wet rot, electrical and plumbing. Noted that it was a great building, but would be "no small feat" as a project.

Mert Sargent MADE A MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, by majority.

The Moderator explained to the meeting that he had a written request to handle this vote by written ballot. We then proceeded with the written ballot procedure.

115 votes were cast: .....	.46 Yes
.....	.69 No
	115 Total

The Moderator announced that Article 30 had been defeated.

ARTICLE 31: (by Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to give the Board of Selectmen the authority to request the Freedom Road Agent to plow and maintain the Durgin Hill Road (once known as Deer Run) during the winter only. The property owners of Durgin Hill will be responsible for all summer maintenance, repair and general upkeep.

Comment: The Town Meeting cannot establish a winter road and any vote under this article will be advisory only and dependent on Selectmen action as follows. This petitioned article is, in effect, asking the Town to expend highway funds on the Durgin Hill Road if the Board of Selectmen lays out that road as a winter road pursuant to RSA 231:24. Such a layout would make the Durgin Hill Road, a winter road, a Class V Town maintained highway during the period from November 15 to April 1. Any damage to the road present during the winter period of November 15 to April 1 would have to be repaired at Town expense.

MOVED: Hugh Priebe

SECONDED: Ralph Kazanjian

Betty Godfrey questioned whether the Town could do this if the road was not up to Town standards etc. and the Selectmen said she was correct if the Town were considering taking the road over, but the Article was for winter maintenance only. Betty also questioned whether the Town could do this on a "private road" - wasn't it the equivalent of plowing private driveways? Selectman Goff explained that it was a public road - the property owners couldn't prevent public travel, or the fire trucks etc. and when Betty questioned the legal difference, Selectman Goff explained that any roadways that had more than two structures on it was not a driveway.

Ralph Kazanjian spoke in favor of the article - said it wouldn't take much time. Hugh Priebe estimated 20 minutes each times 10.

Mert Sargent noted that starting next year the school bus would be going up that road.

Bonnie Ainsworth asked about the line in the "comment" that said the Town would be responsible for "any damage to the road present during the winter period of November 15 to April 1 would have to be repaired at Town expense" and the maintenance. Hugh Priebe stated that the culverts and ditches were in good shape.

Dave McCue, who lives in the development and was one of the petition signers, noted that they had been told the Town was going to take on the road when they bought, and that the group can handle the maintenance during the summer and plan to put the money saved on winter plowing back in to maintenance of the road.

Jerry Brooks said he's owned Lot #1 in that development for 25 years and the road has required very little maintenance.

Selectman Bittner noted that the wording was referring to wash-outs etc. If a wash-out took place during that time period, then the Town would have to do the repairs.

Mark Bittner MADE A MOTION to move the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, by majority.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 31: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 32: (by Petition)

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate money to pave the Youngs Hill Road from the intersection of Moulton Road and Youngs Hill Road to the existing pavement.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Robert Daly

Warren Anthony inquired about the money amount.

Selectman Bittner stated it could be handled either of two ways: \$27,500.00 out of the hot top previously voted in, or amend the article to raise an additional \$18,500.00 to fund this.

The Moderator, Don Johnson, noted that he would recommend that somebody make an amendment to the Article to determine the manner in which this should be considered.

Mark Bittner MADE A MOTION TO AMEND the article by changing the wording as follows: "To see if the Town will vote to pave the Youngs Hill Road from the intersection of Moulton Road and Youngs Hill Road to the existing pavement, using funds already appropriated." SECONDED by Richard Goff.

Discussion.

Ralph Kazanjian asked the Moderator for a ruling on a point of order. He felt that the prior Article for paving already allowed for the paving required in this Article, and that this Article isn't necessary. The Moderator reconsidered and told Mr. Kazanjian that he felt it was an admissible motion.

Betty Godfrey made a suggestion and wondered if the person who had made the amendment would consider adding the words: "not to exceed \$18,500.00". After discussion, Mark Bittner, who had made the original

amendment motion, agreed to the change, as did Richard Goff who had seconded the motion.

The Article therefor was amended to read: "To see if the Town will vote to pave the Youngs Hill Road from the intersection of Moulton Road and Youngs Hill Road to the existing pavement, using funds already appropriated, not to exceed \$18,500.00."

Dick Surrette MADE A MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, by majority.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: YES, by majority.

Discussion on amendment.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 32 as Amended: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 33:

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provision of RSA 31:19 providing that any town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority, the Board of Selectmen to accept, on behalf of the Town, gifts, legacies, and devices made to the Town in trust for any public purposes, as permitted by RSA 31:19.

MOVED: Robert Daly.

SECONDED: Mark Bittner.

Betty Godfrey made a MOTION TO AMEND the Article by striking the words "authorizing indefinitely, until specific rescission of such authority"; SECONDED by Eliot Waterbury.

Betty explained that this article is in the warrant every year and should be, and with the new wording that had been added, wouldn't have to be on the warrant again unless under a special warrant article.

Mark Bittner asked "why?: - what is the reason for this amendment - it is unnecessary and only drags the meeting out.

Betty Godfrey stated it was our constitutional right.

Alan Davidson said he agreed with Mark Bittner - that's why we have Selectmen.

Tom Kondrat noted that there used to be three or four of these Articles in the Warrant every year.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND: NO, by majority.

Went back to discussion of Article 33 in original form.

Mark Bittner MADE A MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, unanimous.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 33: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 34:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the prepayment of taxes and to authorize the Tax Collector to accept payments in prepayment of taxes, as provided in RSA 80:52-a.

MOVED: Ralph Kazanjian.

SECONDED: Richard Goff

Mark Bittner made a MOTION TO AMEND the Article by inserting the word "indefinitely"; SECONDED by Warren Anthony.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT: YES, by majority.

Discussion on Article 34 as amended.

Mark Bittner made a MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, by majority.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 34 AS AMENDED: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 35:

To review real estate acquired by the Town by tax collector's deed since the last Annual Town Meeting.

Comment: At the 1995 Annual Town Meeting, the Selectmen were given the authority indefinitely to sell property acquired by the town by tax collector's deed either by public auction or by advertised sealed bids or as justice may require. This permanent authority was granted on the condition that each year at Town Meeting there would be a review of the maps of the properties which the Town had acquired by tax collector's deed since the last Annual Town Meeting. The Selectmen intend to provide a review of the properties acquired since the last Annual Town Meeting and will bring the tax maps to the Town Meeting.

MOVED: Richard Goff

SECONDED: Mark Bittner

VOTE ON ARTICLE 35 TO REVIEW: YES, by majority.

The Tax Collector, Tom Kondrat, and the Selectmen, then proceeded to review each parcel individually:

Map 41 - Square Brook - L. J. Boudreau Lot - deed not recorded.

Map 44 - lot behind Emery Stokes house - "Nason Estate".

Map 51 - "Kaechele Lot" in the village - had been on the Warrant several years ago - Selectmen had wanted to purchase so that the state could make alterations to the corner and the steep banking for safety reasons. The Town has been talking to the State.

Map 12 - on Route 153 - between Ellen Winters and Chuck Brooks - swamp - last known owner of large tract is a relative of Bob Fowler's. This is a swamp lot - Selectmen recommend turning it over to the Conservation Commission for conservation purposes.

The Selectmen recommend that the "Boudreau Lot" and the lot behind Emery Stoke's be sold by sealed bid, that the "Kaechele" or corner lot be kept to up-grade the corner.

Hugh Priebe made a MOTION TO take the lots one at a time and to take the Selectmen's recommendations; SECONDED by Warren Anthony.

Map 12, Lot 27-2 - the "swamp lot" - the Selectmen recommend giving to the Conservation Commission to be held forever and in perpetuity.

VOTE: YES, unanimous.

Map 44, Lot 6 - lot behind Emery Stoke's house: Selectmen recommend sealed bids with a clear title.

VOTE: YES, unanimous.

Map 41, Lot 47 - the "Boudreau Lot": Selectmen recommend sealed bid.

VOTE: YES, unanimous.

Map 51 - the Kaechele Lot: Selectmen recommend retain for future Town use.

VOTE: YES, unanimous.

ARTICLE 36:

To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Richard Goff MADE A MOTION to change the name of the Highway Crew to the "Public Works Department"; SECONDED by Mark Bittner.

Frank Westerhoff questioned whether this would affect the elected road agent position - was told it would not by Selectmen.

Betty Godfrey spoke against this proposal - felt it should be kept separate - she said we were getting to a point where we are homogenizing everything.

Hugh Priebe spoke for the proposal - said it was pure accounting.

Hugh Priebe MADE A MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, by majority.

VOTE ON PROPOSAL: YES, by majority.

The Moderator, Don Johnson, asked the meeting to take a minute to give thanks to Merton Sargent, who had been the Road Agent and is retiring.

The Moderator announced to the meeting that the grand total of the monies raised and appropriated today are \$1,144,789.00.

Tom Kondrat MADE A MOTION to re-consider Article 30; SECONDED by Mark Bittner.

The voice count was so close, the Moderator had to go to a hand count.
The results were:

47 Yes 30 No

The Motion to Re-consider Article 30 was passed.

Tom Kondrat made a MOTION TO STRIKE the prior Article 30 and to insert the following Article 30:

“ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 for an environmental audit of the Freedom Village Store. The audit to be limited to digging up the gas tanks and testing a soil sample for contamination.”

SECONDED by Frank Westerhoff.

Martha Hall reminded the meeting of Julie Coates' remarks that the EPA may be forced to come in...

Betty Godfrey asked if the Town holds the deed? The Selectmen told her no - and then Tom Kondrat, the Tax Collector, pointed out that the Town didn't have to hold the deed in order to proceed with the testing - said the Town was authorized under RSA 80-19A.

Peg Scully spoke in favor of this proposal.

Les Babb questioned whether if, when the testing was done, if a problem were found, under the EPA laws, would the town be allowed to stop?

Tom Kondrat said that the Selectmen would check in to the legal aspects of the proposal and won't proceed if not possible, and the \$5000.00 would go in to the surplus.

Gail Bickford spoke in favor of the proposal.

Bud Brooks asked if the Selectmen could check on this and get back to us.

Emery Stokes spoke in favor of the proposal and suggested we vote the money in and let the Selectmen have the opportunity to check out the possibilities.

Ed Kucera inquired if core samples could be taken?

Howard Bouve answered “Yes”.

Betty Godfrey spoke against the article because of the unknown risks and the fact that the Town doesn't own the property.

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND Article 30 as proposed: YES, by majority. The amendment carried.

Les Babb made a MOTION TO AMEND FURTHER by adding to the amendment that environmental audit had to be performed by the EPA; SECONDED by Jeannette Lucas.

Emery Stokes felt that decision should be left to the Selectmen.

Richard Surrette felt the proposal should be left in its original form and leave the EPA out of it.

Bud Brooks inquired who would perform the audit if the EPA didn't? - and was advised by Howard Bouve that many private companies do the testing.

Betty Godfrey noted again that she felt this was a mistake because we don't own the property.

Les Babb wondered what would happen if something is found are we or aren't' we going to be responsible?

Betty Godfrey noted that in the case of closing the dump, the EPA dictated the standards.

Selectman Goff noted that's why the firm of Kimball-Chase was involved.

Betty Godfrey stated that the EPA will determine the time frame, once involved, and cautioned that we are dealing with an unknown situation.

Selectman Goff stated that they are trying to get through this situation without any liability.

Betty Godfrey pointed out that we don't have enough information.

VOTE ON THE AMENDMENT: NO, by majority.

The Moderator returned the meeting to the discussion of Article 30 as originally amended.

Mark Bittner made a MOTION TO MOVE the question.

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE: YES, by majority.

The Moderator noted that because of the formal written request he'd had prior to the beginning of the meeting, any voting on Article 30 had to be done by a paper ballot. We then proceeded to vote - 94 votes were cast:

34 NO 60 YES

The Amended ARTICLE 30 carries.

[NOTE: This additional \$5,000.00 brought the total raised and appropriated to \$1,149,789.00.]

OTHER BUSINESS Article 36:

Bud Brooks voiced a concern about the amount of highway salt being used over the aquifer; Phyllis Mayhew agreed with him.

Alan Davidson MADE A MOTION TO ADJOURN;

SECONDED by Richard Surrette.

VOTE ON MOTION TO ADJOURN: YES, unanimous.

The Meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD, ATTEST:

A. Elizabeth Priebe, Town Clerk

(*full minutes available on tape.)

TOWN MEETING - MARCH 11, 1997 WARRANT

**THE POLLS WILL BE OPEN FROM
9:00 A.M. TO 7:00 P.M.**

To the inhabitants of the Town of Freedom in the County of Carroll in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified that the Annual Town Meeting of the Town of Freedom will be held at the Freedom Town Hall on Tuesday, the 11th day of March, 1997, at 9:00 o'clock in the forenoon to act upon the following subjects.

There will be voting by Official Ballot for the election of Town Officers and all other articles requiring vote by Official Ballot. The polls open at 9:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. unless there is a vote to keep the polls open to a later hour. The ballots will be counted after the polls close at 7:00 p.m.

All other articles will be presented, discussed and acted upon beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Freedom Town Hall.

ARTICLE 1: (To vote by Official Ballot)

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 2: (To vote by Official Ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the existing Freedom Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board with regard to Signs.

The official copy of the amendment is on file and available to the public at the office of the Town Clerk and will be on display at the Town Hall on the day of the meeting. The following question is on the Official Ballot:

"Are you in favor of the adoption of the amendment as proposed by the Planning Board for the Freedom Zoning Ordinance?

The proposed amendment would allow for the one on-premise sign, a sign not to exceed 32 square feet in the Light Commercial District and a sign not to exceed 9 square feet in all other districts. A definition of "Sign Area" is included which provides the method of calculating sign area and Section 404 is amended to permit signs in the front yard if the signs do not interfere with the public's use of the highway and any sidewalk."

ARTICLE 3: (By petition)

To see if the Town will vote to have each item in each article voted on separately

Example: Highways
Summer Category
Winter Category
New Construction

To be voted on by written ballot.

ARTICLE 4:

To see if the Town will appropriate \$33,030 for the first year lease payment and authorize the Selectmen to negotiate and enter into a five year lease for a Motor Grader, and sign all documents and take all action as may be necessary.

ARTICLE 5:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following sums of money:

Town Officers' Salaries	\$ 17,105
Town Officers' Expense	58,775
Health Insurance	4,167
Selectmen's Support	3,000
Election and Registration	2,900
Town Hall and Other Town Buildings	13,780
Planning and Zoning Boards	2,125
Conservation Commission	350
Legal Fees	28,000
Town Needy	4,000
Unemployment Compensation	1,050
FICA/Med Tax	12,400
Insurance	41,294
Codes Officer	4,320
	<hr/>
	\$193,266

ARTICLE 6:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the following sums of money:

Town Maintenance of Highways	\$217,474*
General Expense of Highway Department	71,663
Cemeteries	3,250
Street Lights	8,000
Old Home Week & Memorial Day	1,900
Ballfield, Tennis Court & Beaches	2,250
Bond & Interest, Tax Note Interest	114,240
Water Precinct	1,000
	<hr/>
	\$419,777

* This appropriation will be reduced by the estimated State Highway Block Grant of \$51,089, with the balance to be raised from taxes, per Department of Revenue Administration.

ARTICLE 7:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to apply hot top to Town roads.

ARTICLE 8:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$ 15,500 to seal Town roads.

ARTICLE 9:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,600 for restriping of the yellow centerline and stop lines on the Ossipee Lake Road.

ARTICLE 10:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.

Selectmen: For 3 Against _____

ARTICLE 11:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$50,145 for the Fire Department to be used as listed:

Chief's & Members Expenses	\$ 7,000
Turnout Gear .....	.1,000
Mutual Aid Dues .....	.3,000
Equipment	10,000
Training .....	.2,500
Maintenance .....	.26.645
	<hr/>
	\$50,145

ARTICLE 12:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,000 for Forest Fire Protection. This amount is matched with State funds.

ARTICLE 13:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$7,440 for the purchase of a Physio-Control Lifepak 300 defibrillator.

ARTICLE 14:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$500 for the continuation of the Safety and Emergency Management programs.

ARTICLE 15:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$ 1,854 for dues to the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

ARTICLE 16:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$ 10,200 as requested by the Library Trustees to provide and maintain adequate library services for the Freedom Public Library.

ARTICLE 17:

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 202-A:4-d authorizing the Library Trustees to accept gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the library for any public purpose, provided however, that no acceptance of personal property by the Library Trustees shall be deemed to bind the Town or the Library Trustees to raise, appropriate or

expend any public funds for the operation, maintenance, repair or replacement of such personal property.

ARTICLE 18:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$800 for the Mount Washington Valley Economic Council to be raised in conjunction with other funds to conduct economic development activity designed to retain and extend local employment opportunities for the 12 towns it serves.

ARTICLE 19:

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appoint members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment in accordance with New Hampshire Law, as provided in RSA 673 :3, I.

Comment: The purpose of this article is to confirm that members of the Zoning Board of Adjustment are appointed.

ARTICLE 20: (To vote by printed ballot)

To see if the Town will vote to change the term of the Road Agent from one year to three years, as provided in RSA 231 :62-a, beginning with the term of the Road Agent to be elected at the 1998 Annual Town Meeting.

State law requires the Town Meeting to vote by printed ballot on this question.

ARTICLE 21: (By petition)

To see if the Town will vote to give the Board of Selectmen the authority to request the Freedom Road Agent to plow and maintain Fox Run Road during the winter only. The property owners of Fox Run Road will be responsible for all summer maintenance, repair and general upkeep.

Comment: The Town Meeting can take no legal action on this article.

ARTICLE 22:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$66,685 for the Police Department.

ARTICLE 23:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$32,077 for the salary and benefits of a police officer.

(*Comment:* The Town will obtain a grant of \$25,000 from the Federal COPS Grant program and the cost to the Town will be \$7,077.)

ARTICLE 24:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, for the operation of the Town Transfer Station, the sum of \$64,810.

ARTICLE 25:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,500 for Freedom's share of the Ossipee Lake Dam Authority expenses for 1997.

ARTICLE 26:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,705 for the following purposes:

Huggins Hospital	.....	\$ 1,200
Carroll County Mental Health	.....	1,290
Children Unlimited	.....	.475
Community Action Program	.....	1,000
Children's Health Center	.....	1,540
Visiting Nurse Service (Conways)	.....	1,100
Family Planning	.....	1,165
Domestic Violence	.....	500
Red Cross	.....	.480
Visiting Nurse Service (Wolfeboro)	.....	.620
Family Support	.....	.135
Big Brother/Big Sister	.....	.200
Animal Control	.....	2.000
		<hr/>
		\$ 11,705

ARTICLE 27:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,550 for ambulance service.

ARTICLE 28:

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$9,000 to pave and stripe the Basketball Court.

ARTICLE 29: (By petition)

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) to remove as necessary and replace the sidewalk from the Mill Pond Bridge towards the Post Office, approximately 300 feet, approximately 4 feet wide, not less than 4 inches thick, bonding agent if old walk is left in place 4000# mix Fiber Mesh reinforced with tooled joints approximately 6'-2 coats cure and seal compound.

Selectmen: For 2 Against 1

ARTICLE 30: (By petition)

We the undersigned taxpayers of Freedom, NH and users of North Broad Bay Road hereby request; that said road to be considered for paving during 1997.

ARTICLE 31:

To see if the Town will vote to delegate to the Board of Selectmen the authority to accept dedicated streets as provided in RSA 674:40-a subject to the conditions and requirements contained in that statute.

ARTICLE 32:

To see if the Town will vote to modify the elderly exemptions from property tax in the Town as provided in RSA 72:39-b. The question to be voted on as required by RSA 72:39-b, 1 (c) is as follows;

"Shall we modify the elderly exemptions from the property tax in the Town of Freedom, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers, to be as follows

For a person 65 years of age up to 75 years, \$12,000;

For a person 75 years of age up to 80 years, \$25,000,

For a person 80 years of age or older, \$50,000.

To qualify, the person must have been a New Hampshire Resident for at least five years, own the real estate individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least five years. In addition, the taxpayer must have a net income of not more than \$13,400 or, if married, a combined net income of less than \$20,400; and own net assets not in excess of \$50,000 excluding the value of the person's residence."

(Comment: This question must be voted on by printed ballot. If a majority of those voting on the question vote yes, the elderly exemptions shall take effect on April 1, 1997.)

ARTICLE 33:

To review real estate acquired by the Town by tax collector's deed since the last annual Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 34:

To transact any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

Given under our hands and seal this _____ day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-seven.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Richard J. Goff, Jr.

Robert J. Daly, Jr.

Mark R. Bittner

BUDGET 1997

OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM, NH

January 1, 1997-December 31, 1997

PURPOSE OF APPROPRIATION	Appropriations Prior Year	Actual Expenditures 1996	Appropriations Ensuing Fiscal Year
General Government			
Executive	\$17,105	\$17,070	\$17,105
Election, Registration, & Vital Statistics	4,400	6,288	2,900
Financial Administration	54,030	47,849	65,942
Legal Expense	11,100	23,386	28,000
Personnel Administration	13,450	12,287	13,450
Planning and Zoning	1,725	1,903	2,125
General Government Building	13,380	12,275	13,780
Cemeteries	3,750	2,523	3,250
Insurance	42,678	16,751	41,294
Advertising and Regional Associations	1,810	1,810	2,654
Public Safety			
Police	91,652	88,741	98,762
Ambulance	11,000	11,000	11,550
Fire	40,300	40,506	51,145
Bldg. Inspection	4,100	3,735	4,320
Other Public Safety	21,266	18,455	5,000
Highways and Streets			
Highways and Streets	294,111	319,342	329,637
Street Lighting	8,000	7,433	8,000
Sanitation			
Solid Waste Collection	67,150	63,218	62,810
Sewage Collection and Disposal	1,000	0	2,000
Health			
Pest Control	2,000	1,946	2,000
Health Agencies and Hospitals	8,740	8,740	9,705
Welfare			
Vendor Payments and Other	3,500	3,895	4,000
Culture and Recreation			
Parks and Recreation	2,250	1,486	2,250
Library	10,200	10,200	10,200
Patriotic Purposes	565	480	700
Other Culture and Recreation	1,200	1,200	1,200
Conservation			
Purchase of Natural Resources	350	157	350

Debt Service

Princ. - Long Term Bonds & Notes ..	\$80,000	.....	\$80,000	.....	\$80,000
Interest - Long Term Bonds & Notes .	30,480	.....	30,480	.....	26,240
Interest on TAN	8,000	.....	6,719	.....	8,000

Capital Outlay

Mach., Veh., & Equip.	270,597	.....	270,597	.....	40,470
Buildings	5,000	.....	4,344		
Improvements Other Than Buildings .	10,000	10,000	19,600

Operating Transfers Out

To Capital Reserve Fund	15,000	15,000	15,000
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Total Appropriations	\$1,149,789	\$1,139,851	\$983,439
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SOURCE OF REVENUE	Estimated Revenue	Actual Revenue	Estimated Revenue
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Taxes

Yield Taxes.....	\$17,100	\$18,208	\$15,000
Other Taxes	6,000	6,290	6,000
Interest & Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	23,000	27,961	25,000

Licenses, Permits and Fees

Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	130,000	.....	177,377	.....	150,000
Building Permits	7,000	.....	8,969	.....	8,000
Other Licenses, Permits & Fees	8,000	8,609	8,000

From Federal Government	24,500	23,446	24,954
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From State

Shared Revenue	25,000	39,878	30,000
Highway Block Grant.....	47,945	47,945	51,089
Other	20,800	.....	22,040		

Miscellaneous Revenues

Sale of Municipal Property.....	12,000	.....	12,125	.....	30,000
Interest on Investments.....	6,000	.....	7,312	.....	6,000
Other	20,000	26,451	38,000

Interfund Operating Transfers In

Capital Reserve Fund	147,277	152,204		
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Total Revenues and Credits	\$494,622	\$578,815	\$392,043
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Total Appropriations					\$983,439
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Less:

Amount of Estimated Revenues, Exclusive of Property Taxes ..	\$392,043
Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$591,396
(Exclusive of School & County Taxes)	

PROPERTY VALUATION INVENTORY SCHEDULE

	1996 Acres	Assessed Valuation	Totals
Value of Land Only			
A. Current Use . . . . .	.9140	\$740,015	
(at current use values)			
B. Residential . . . . .	.2636	96,179,684	
C. Commercial/Industrial . . . . .	.2019	5,147,187	
Total of Taxable Land		\$102,066,886	
Tax Exempt Non Taxable (3,436,600)			
Value of Buildings Only			
A. Residential	\$93,764,035		
B. Manufactured Housing	10,663,800		
(as defined in RSA 674:31)			
C. Commercial/Industrial	5,181,200		
Total of taxable Buildings		\$109,609,035	
Tax Exempt Non Taxable (4,071,000)			
Public Utilities - Value of all property used in production, transmission and distribution including production, machinery, land, landrights, easements, etc.			
Electric		\$1,405,400	
Valuation Before Exemptions		\$213,081,321	
Blind Exemption RSA 72:37		15,000	
Elderly Exempt. RSA 72:39, 72:43B 72:43f & 72:43h		823,700	
Totally & Permanently Disabled Exemp. RSA 72:37-b		40,000	
Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions		\$878,700	
Net Valuation of Which the Tax Rate is Computed		\$212,202,621	

UTILITY SUMMARY

Name of Company	Electric
Public Service of NH	\$1,110,800
NH Electric Co-op	294,600
	\$1,405,400

Types of Elderly Exemptions Being Granted	Year Adopted
Option Adjusted Exemption	1990

Elderly Exemption Count			
Number of Individuals .....	.22 @ 12,000	=	\$264,000
	7 @ 25,000	=	175,000
	8 @ 50,000	=	384,700
Total	37		\$823,700

Total Number of Acres Exempted under Current Use

9,140

Total Number of Acres Taken out of Current Use During Year

none

Certificate

This is to certify that the information contained in this report was taken from official records and is correct to the best of our knowledge and belief, RSA 21-J:34

Richard J. Goff, Jr.
Mark R. Bittner
Robert J. Daly, Jr.
Selectmen of Freedom

APPROPRIATIONS - STATEMENT OF

Purposes of Appropriation

General Government

Town Officers Salaries	\$17,105
Election & Registration	4,400
Town Officers Expense	54,030
Legal Expense	11,000
Personnel Administration	13,450
Planning & Zoning	1,725
General Government Buildings	13,380
Cemeteries	3,750
Insurance	42,678
Regional Association	1,810

Public Safety

Police	91,652
Ambulance	11,000
Fire	40,300
Building Inspection	4,100
Ossipee Lake Dam Authority	16,266
Enhanced 911	3,000
Safety Program	1,000

Highway, Streets and Bridges

Highways & Streets .....	.294,111
Street Lighting .....	.8,000

Sanitation

Solid Waste Disposal .....	.67,150
Sewage Collection and Disposal	1,000

Water Distribution and Treatment

Water precinct	1,000
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Health

Animal Control	2,000
Health Agencies and Hospitals	8,740

Welfare

Vendor Payments	3,500
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Culture and Recreation

Park and Recreation	\$ 2,250
Library	10,200
Patriotic Purposes565
Old Home Week .....	.1,200

Conservation350

Debt Service

Principal Long Term Bond	80,000
Interest Long Term Bond	30,480
Interest on TAN .....	.8,000

Capital Outlay

Machinery, Vehicles and Equipment .....	.270,597
Buildings .....	.5,000
Improvements other than buildings10,000

Operating Transfers Out

Highway15,000
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TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS \$1,149,789

Overlay \$18,214

TAX RATE COMPUTATION

**Tax
Rates**

Total Town Appropriations	\$1,149,789	
Less: Revenues,.....	555,027	
Less: Shared Revenues.....	2,901	
Add: Overlay	18,214	
War Service Credits.....	17,300	
Net Town Appropriation	\$627,375	
Approved Tax Effort.....		\$627,375
Municipal Tax Rate		2.96

School Portion

Due to Local School.....	1,259,485	
Less: Shared Revenues.....	4,901	
Net School Appropriation.....	1,254,584	
Approved School Effort.....		1,254,584
School Tax Rate		5.91

County Portion

Due to County	188,722	
Less: Shared Revenues.....	857	
Net County Appropriation	187,865	
Approved County Tax Effort		187,865
County Tax Rate		88
Combined Tax Rate		9.75

Total Property Taxes Assessed

2,069,824

Commitment Analysis

Total Property Taxes Assessed	2,069,824	
Less: War Service Credits		(17,300)
Total Property Tax Commitment		2,052,524

Proof of Rate

Net Assessed Valuation	Tax Rate	Assessment
212,289,621	9.75	2,069,824

TOWN OWNED EQUIPMENT

In Excess of \$1,000

Highway

- 1962 Astin Western grader
- 1963 York Rake
- 1979 H60 Hough Loader
- 1992 Morbark Chipper
- 1994 GMC Topkick all wheel drive
- 1995 Case 580L Backhoe
- 1996 Ford 350 one ton
- 1991 MB Sweeper
- 1995 Tar Pot
- 1994 Billy Goat
- 1986 Fontaine 5 yd sander
- 1987 Fontaine 10 yd sander
- 1992 Highway 3 yd sander
- 1994 Swenson stainless steel 5 yd sander

Police Department

- 1996 Ford Crown Victoria
- 1993 Ford Crown Victoria
- Kustom Trooper Radar Unit

Fire Department

- 1926 Seagrave Pumper
- 1972 Chevy Pumper
- 1989 Mack Fire Truck
- 1986 Chevy Rescue Truck
- 10 Scott Air Pacs

Transfer Station

- 1980 450 John Deer Crawler
- Marathon Vertical Baler

TOWN OWNED PROPERTY SCHEDULE

as of December 31, 1996

Town Hall, Town Office, Land and Buildings	.....	\$375,900
Furniture and Equipment	.....	40,000
Library, Land and Buildings	.....	81,800
Furniture and Equipment	.....	25,000
Police Department Equipment	.....	30,000
Fire Department Land and Buildings	.....	221,300
Equipment	.....	270,000
Highway Department, Land and Buildings	.....	115,600
Equipment	.....	259,100
Materials and supplies	.....	22,000
Transfer/Recycling Facility	.....	74,500
Equipment	.....	18,000
Parks, Commons and Playgrounds	.....	20,000
Schools, Land, Building, Equipment	.....	1,034,600
All Land and Buildings Acquired Through Tax Collector's Deeds		
Loon Lake Lot (town beach)	.....	34,100
Beck Lot - School Land	.....	600
Lot 5B Square Brook	.....	12,800
Country Store	.....	179,500
All other Property		
Fox Run lot	.....	52,100
Ossipee Lake Road - Davidson Donation	.....	4,600
Madison Town Line	.....	59,300
Ossipee Lake Town Beach	.....	109,200
Lot On Danforth Pond	.....	103,400
Demerritt Land - Owners uncertain near precinct	.....	35,200
Conservation Commission Lot - Route 153	.....	24,500
Abuts Morrow/Haines - Owners uncertain		
backland off Andrews Hill Road	.....	20,400
		<hr/> <hr/> \$3,223,500

SCHOOL DISTRICT LIABILITY

Liability at Beginning of Year	\$700,115
Assessment for Current Year	1,259,485
Total Liability within Current Year	\$1,959,600
Payments made to School District	\$1,223,115
Liability at End of Year	736,485
	\$1,959,600

TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES

New Issues During Current Year	\$500,000
Issues Retired During Current Year	500,000

BALANCE SHEET - DECEMBER 31, 1996

ASSETS:	BEGINNING	ENDING
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash	\$ 674,396	\$791,385
Taxes Receivable	147,356	157,533
Tax Liens Receivable	62,022	57,959
Accounts Receivable	1,165	1,173
Due from Federal Government	2,723	5,494
Due from Trust Funds	498	31,576
TOTAL ASSETS	\$888,160	\$1,045,120
LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY:		
CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Warrants and Accounts Payable	\$ 17,821	\$ 10,495
Due to School District	700,115	736,485
Other Payables	1,841	3,274
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 719,777	\$ 750,254
FUND EQUITY:		
Reserve for Encumbrances	\$ 24,986	\$144,163
Unreserved Fund Balance	143,397	150,703
TOTAL FUND EQUITY	\$168,383	\$294,866
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND EQUITY	\$.888,160	\$1,045,120

DEBT - AMORTIZATION SCHEDULE

Purpose	Road Upgrade
Annual Installment	\$80,000
Interest Rate . . . . .	.558
Date of Final Payment	8/15/02
Bonds o/s at beginning of year	\$560,000
Bonds issued this year	0
Bonds Retired this year	\$80,000
Bonds o/s at end of year	\$480,000

Annual requirements to amortize all general obligation (debt as of 12/31/96)

Year	Principal	Interest	Total
1997	\$80,000	.\$26,240	.\$106,240
1998	80,000	.22,000	.102,000
1999	80,000	.17,760	.97,760
2000	80,000	.13,440	.93,440
2001	80,000	.9,040	.89,040
Remaining periods of debt	80,000	4,560	84,560
TOTAL	\$480,000	\$93,040	\$573,040

APPROPRIATIONS AND EXPENDITURES 1996

Title of Appropriation	Appropriation	Expended	Unexpended	Overdraft
Town Officers Salaries	17,105	17,105		
Town Officers Expense	54,030	47,849	6,181	
Election & Registration	4,400	6,288		1,888
Town Buildings	13,380	12,275		1,105
Highway Maintenance	251,111	280,075		28,964
Police Dept.	91,652	88,741		2,911
Fire Dept. & Forest Fire	40,300	40,506		206
Transfer Station	68,150	63,218		4,932
Cemetery	3,750	2,523		1,227
Legal Expenses	11,000	23,386		12,386
Planning & Zoning	1,725	1,903		178
Zoning Officer	4,100	3,735		365
FICA/MED Tax	12,400	11,350		1,050
Unemployment Comp.	1,050	937		113
Insurance	42,678	16,751		25,927
Welfare	3,500	3,895		395
Street Lights	8,000	7,433		567
Water Precinct	1,000		1,000	
Library	10,200		10,200	
Parks & Recreation	4,015	3,166		849
Conservation Commission	350	157		193
Interest Expense	38,480	37,199		1,281
Bond	80,000		80,000	
Capital Reserve	15,000		15,000	
Health & Social Services	19,740		19,740	
Animal Control	2,000		1,946	.54
Lakes Region Planning	1,810		1,810	
Ossipee Lake Dam Authority	16,266		16,266	
Enhanced 911	3,000		189	2,811
Safety Program	1,000		1,000	
Capital Outlay	328,597	324,208		4,389
TOTALS	\$1,149,789	\$1,139,851	\$53,955	\$44,017
TOTAL UNDERRUN				\$ 9,938

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

(January 1, 1996 to December 31, 1996)

Report of Revenue Received

2057	Motor Vehicle Permits Issued	177,377.00
53	Boat Registrations	1,719.68
107	Dog Licenses	556.50
	Dump Permits	67.00
	Postage	22.00
5	Marriage Licenses	190.00
	Copies	81.00
	Filing Fees	20.00
	Bad Check Fees	70.00
	Animal Fines	250.00
TOTAL:		\$ 180,353.18

Respectfully submitted,
A. Elizabeth Priebe, Town Clerk

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

SUMMARY OF TAX ACCOUNTS

Fiscal year ending December 31, 1996

	Levies of:	
	1996	Prior
Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Fiscal Year		
Property Taxes	\$154,444.77	
Yield Taxes	393.21	
Fees	249.46	
Revenues Committed This Year:		
Property Taxes	\$2,058,223.00	
Yield Taxes	18,262.44	
Overpayment:		
Property Taxes	757.30	
Interest Collected on Delinquent Tax:	.692.92	1,710.88
TOTAL DEBITS	<hr/> \$2,077,935.66	<hr/> \$156,798.32
Remitted to Treasurer During Fiscal Year:		
Property Taxes	\$1,886,522.87	\$87,744.34
Yield Taxes	18,262.44	
Interest .....	.692.92	1,710.88
Penalties		
Liens .....	.67,343.10	
Abatements Made:		
Property Taxes .....	.5,434.94	
Uncollected Revenue End of Year		
Property Taxes .....	.167,022.49	
TOTAL CREDITS	<hr/> \$2,077, 935.66	<hr/> \$156,798.32

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

SUMMARY OF TAX SALES/ TAX LIEN ACCOUNTS

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1996

	Levies of:	
	1995	Prior
Unredeemed Taxes Balance at Beginning of Fiscal Year:		\$67,022.02
Liens Sold or Executed:		
During Fiscal Year	\$74,856. 36	3,326.78
Interest and Costs Collected		
After Sale/Lien Execution	2,814.19	16,556.37
TOTAL DEBITS	\$77, 670.55	\$86,905.17
 Remitted To Treasurer:		
Redemptions	\$37,420.07	\$35,080.08
Interest/Costs (After Sale or Lien Execution)	2,814.19	16,556.37
Abatements of Unredeemed Taxes	1,574.81	10,423.42
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year	35,861.48	24,845.30
TOTAL CREDITS	\$77,670. 55	\$86,905.17

PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENTS

Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 1996

Perry	\$212.00	Rettburg	\$ 10.00
Blake .....	.554.87	Bigney .....	.38.00
Williams .....	.128.97	Guild .....	.192.00
Swasey .....	.211.00	Gay .....	.50.00
Ouellette .....	.73.00		

1995

Frances Cameron Russell	.\$134.00	Keyser	\$331.00
Altieri330.00	Swasey1243.50
Wenzel, K.	.189.00		

1994

Sinclair\$356.46	Swasey	\$1296.00
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1993

Swasey\$1243.50
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TREASURER'S REPORT

REVENUE FROM ALL SOURCES

Calendar Year 1996

Tax Collector	\$2,088,229.16
Town Clerk	.....	180,353.18
Bayview Marina - Boat Tax	.....	5,725.46
Rents	.....	214.00
Donations	.....	5,900.00
Sale of Property	.....	12,124.95

FEES AND PERMITS

Planning Board	.....	\$124.00
Zoning Board	.....	1,590.00
Building Permits	.....	8,969.00
Dump Permits	.....	781.00
Dump Tipping Fees	.....	2,761.75
Cable TV Franchise Fee	.....	2,501.27
		<hr/>
		\$16,727.02

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

Block Grants	.....	\$47,945.04
Dept of Environmental Services (Landfill)	.....	20,813.79
Forest Fire Reimbursement	.....	1,226.25
Shared Revenue	19,063.85
		<hr/>
		\$89,048.93

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Dept of Justice (COPS Grant)	\$23,446.00
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RECYCLING REVENUE

RECOVERIES

IRS	\$92.43
Insurance	2,454.48
Workers Comp Unemployment	12,380.54
Overpayment	.....	583.00
Diesel Fuel	.....	6,223.25
Recording Fees	.....	24.00
Misc	.....	80.48
Bank of NH - Refund	.....	48.04
Kimball & Chase	.....	2,513.43
Freedom Police - Dare	.....	395.00
Trust Funds	.....	121,640.77
		<hr/>
		\$146,435.42

SALE OF MATERIALS

Photocopies/Fax	435.82
Garbage Bags	150.00
Computer Printouts/Voters Checklist	186.25
	<hr/>
	\$772.07

INTEREST INCOME

\$7,312.29

LOAN PROCEEDS

500,000.00

TOTAL REVENUE

\$3,076,931.68

CASH ACCOUNT RECONCILEMENT

Cash on Hand 01-01-96	\$656,569.75
Plus: Total Revenue 1996	<hr/> 3,076,931.68
	\$3,733,501.43
Less: Selectmen's Orders Paid 1996	<hr/> 2,952,611.49
Cash on Hand 12-31-96	\$780,889.94

**BANK RECONCILIATIONS AT
December 31, 1996**

Bank of New Hampshire - Regular Account	\$52,306.10
Bank of New Hampshire - Payroll Account	879.96
Bank of New Hampshire - investment Account	179,477.36
Fleet Bank - Investment Account	197,956.06
Citizens Bank - Investment Account	197,993.93
Community Bank & Trust - Investment Account	<hr/> 197,920.45
	\$826,533.86
Plus 1996 Deposits Not Credited	<hr/> 93,185.99
	\$919,719.85
Less: 1996 Checks Outstanding	<hr/> 138,829.91
	\$780,889.94

PAYROLL

TOWN OFFICERS	SALARY	FEES	EXPENSES	TOTAL
Selectmen				
Mark Bittner.....	\$3,000	\$410	\$23	\$3,433
Robert Daly	3,000 .....	.56 .....	.94	3,150
Richard Goff.....	3,000	120 .....	.410	3,530
Town Clerk				
A. Elizabeth Priebe.....	2,000	3,848 .....	.220	6,068
Deputy Town Clerk				
Susan Brown.....	770 .....			.770
Treasurer				
Ralph Kazanjian.....	2,000 .....	.40 .....	.496	2,536
Tax Collector				
Thomas Kondrat.....	2,000	3,941 .....	.6,845	12,786
Auditor				
Ernest Day	2,000			2,000
Supervisors of Checklist				
Daniel Brooks.....	642 .....			.642
Albert Godfrey	642 .....			.642
Hugh Priebe	240 .....			.240
Moderator				
Donald Johnson.....	361 .....			.361
Trustees of Trust Funds				
Virginia Fastnacht	35 .....			.35
Elizabeth Godfrey	35 .....			.35
Sally Stoops	35 .....			.35
TOWN EMPLOYEES				
Police				
James Brown.....				.6,584
Jeffrey Brown .....				.4,666
Charles Pearson.....				.21,482
John Pyne III.....				.29,999
Shawn Willard.....				.1,862

Highway

Scott Brooks	\$17,065
Kenneth Davis.....	1,083
Roy Eldridge.....	19,273
John Nason .....	.2,278
Brian Perry .....	.21,268
Hugh Priebe	19,273
Merton Sargent Sr. ....	.5,635

Transfer Station

Harold Libby Sr.....	.8,237
Robert Libby Sr.....	.4,579

Codes Officer

Paul Dorian.....	.3,047
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Office

Karen Hatch	13,110
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Janitors

Cindy Nason1,183
Marion Sargent1,200
Merton Sargent Jr.1,200

Planning Board

Linda Farinella .....	.229
Ray Leavitt .....	.109

VENDORS - MAJOR SERVICE SUPPLIERS

Anton Enterprises	\$ 1,835
B & S Industries .....	.504
Bound Tree Corp.	10,052
G. W. Brooks & Son .....	.22,714
Scott Brooks .....	.14,062
Roger Burnell .....	.2,889
Business Management Systems .....	.1,134
Cameron Auto Repair .....	.315
Carroll County Independent .....	.1,789
Cole-Layer-Trumble Co. ....	.1,400
Cole Sign .....	.690
A.J. Coleman .....	.2,644
Commercial Fire .....	.1,182
Margery Conrey .....	.575
Contech Construction Products .....	.4,567
Conway Tractor .....	.402
Country Foodstop .....	.531
C & S Specialty Inc. ....	.2,903
Danka .....	.327
Diprizio GMC Trucks .....	.433
Donbeck Sales .....	.447
Donovan Equipment .....	.6,635
Down Sand and Gravel .....	.1,487
H.P. Eastman, Inc. ....	.8,543
Eastman Welding .....	.398
Brad Eldridge .....	.2,095
Emergency Response Training Ins. ....	.786
H.P. Fairfield, Inc. ....	.8,543
Flag Shop .....	.447
Andrew Foss Inc. ....	.1,710
Freedom Hardware .....	.1,276
Granite State Minerals .....	.8,670
Great Northern Environmental Services .....	.2,350
R.C. Hazelton .....	.4,351
R.L. Heath .....	.972
Irving Oil .....	.15,885
JAF Industries .....	.6,692
Raymond Kennard .....	.456
Kennett Corp. ....	.6,328

Laconia Electric	\$642
Lakes Region Fire Apparatus	3,335
Harold Libby, Jr. ....	.753
Robert Libby, Sr. ....	.860
Locke Office Products .....	.921
Michie .....	.463
Microbac Laboratories .....	.1,299
M.J.M. Trucking .....	.3,664
Nebs .....	.891
Neptune .....	.389
N.E. Lift Co. ....	.395
Northern Tire .....	.778
Ossipee Aggregate .....	.2,187
Ossipee Auto Parts .....	.5,320
Ossipee Mountain Electronics .....	.5,762
Nate Perkins, Plumbing & Heating .....	.563
Elie Piche .....	.2,050
Pine Tree Engineering .....	.9,669
David Perry .....	.1,530
Profile Motors .....	.650
Provan and Lauber .....	.1,994
R & D Paving .....	.20,767
Rapid Sanitation .....	.38,652
Resources UNLTD .....	.567
Marion Sargent .....	.1,200
Merton Sargent, Jr. ....	.1,200
Merton Sargent, Sr. ....	.11,906
Skehan Home Center .....	.1,339
Milton Southworth .....	.11,273
Steve's Market .....	.1,128
John Stuart .....	.1,093
Sullivan Tire Co. ....	.591
Surrette Cap Co. ....	.1,020
T & J Drywall .....	.430
Tennis Courts of NH .....	.10,000
Underground Press .....	.1,455
Vermont Chloride .....	.6,899
Viking Office Products .....	.633
Carl West, Jr. ....	.1,700
Carl West, Sr. ....	.1,116
Arthur Whitcomb .....	.368

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES

1996 APPROPRIATIONS

TOWN OFFICER SALARIES

Selectmen	\$9,000
Town Clerk .....	.2,000
Tax Collector .....	.2,000
Town Treasurer .....	.2,000
Auditor .....	.2,000
Trustees of Trust Funds .....	.105
Expended	\$17,105
Appropriated	17,105
Balance	0

TOWN OFFICE EXPENSE

Town Clerk Fees	\$3,298
Deputy Town Clerk .....	.335
Tax Collector Fees & Costs .....	.11,098
Other Fees & Service .....	.1,890
Reimbursable Expense .....	.1,721
Administrative Assistant .....	.13,110
Computer Support .....	.1,134
Dues .....	.1,022
Tax Map Updates .....	.2,969
Meetings/Training .....	.522
Office Supplies .....	.2,967
Telephone .....	.4,194
Printing, Postage, Notices .....	.3,063
Equipment Purchase .....	.105
Misc. .....	.178
Expended	\$47,606
Encumbered	243
	\$47,849
Appropriated	54,030
Underrun	\$ 6,181

ELECTION & REGISTRATION

Workers	\$4,878
Printing Town Report .....	.1,410
Expended	\$ 6,288
Appropriated	4,400
Overrun	\$ 1,888

TOWN BUILDING

Janitorial Services	\$3,591
Utilities	5,935
Maintenance	2,749
	<hr/>
Expended	\$12,275
Appropriated	13,380
	<hr/>
Underrun	\$1,105

HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE**Summer**

Labor	\$49,240
Equipment	51,936
Material	41,307
Contract Services	12,241
Total Summer Maintenance	154,724

Winter

Labor	\$37,058
Equipment	24,900
Material	10,310
Total Winter Maintenance	72,268
Subtotal	226,992
- General Highway Expense	35,676
Insurance	17,407
	<hr/>
Expended	\$280,075
Appropriated	251,111
	<hr/>
Overrun	\$ 28,964

POLICE

Chief Salary	\$30,000
Part Time Salaries	11,672
Chief Retirement .....	.800
Chief Health & Dental	6,753
Gasoline	2,121
Repairs	3,789
Office/Operating Supplies .....	.682
Uniforms .....	.934
Telephone .....	.300
Equipment	1,621
Outside Services .....	.50
Misc. .....	.280
	<hr/>
Expended	\$59,002
Appropriated	59,003
	<hr/>
Underrun	\$ 1

COPS GRANT OFFICER

Salary	\$21,482
Benefits .....	.8,257
	<hr/>
Expended	\$29,739
Appropriated	32,649
	<hr/>
Underrun	2,910

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Members Reimbursable	\$4,000
Chief Reimbursable	1,500
Mutual Aid Dues	3,000
Utilities	4,981
Equipment Purchase	8,271
Training	2,200
Vehicle Repairs & Gas	5,867
Building Maintenance	2,579
Tools & Supplies	1,229
Radio Repairs .....	.541
First Responders	5,000
Misc. .....	.65
	<hr/>
Expended	\$39,233
Appropriated	39,300
	<hr/>
Underrun	\$ 67

FOREST FIRE PROTECTION

Expended	\$1,273
Appropriated	1,000
Overrun	\$ 273

TRANSFER STATION

Labor	\$12,476
Utilities	1,215
Equipment Repair/Diesel	1,613
Engineering	10,968
Transfer Fees	36,697
Misc. .....	.249
	<hr/>
Expended	\$63,218
Appropriated	68,150
	<hr/>
Underrun	4,932

CEMETERY

Expended	\$2,523
Appropriated	3,750
Underrun	\$1,227

LEGAL EXPENSES

Town Office	\$19,248
Planning Board .....	.204
Zoning Board .....	.184
Tarr vs Town .....	.3,750
Expended	\$23,386
Appropriated	11,000
Overrun	\$12,386

PLANNING & ZONING

Expended	\$1,902
Appropriated	1,725

Underrun \$ 177

ZONING OFFICER

Part time salary .....	.\$3,047
Expenses .....	.688
Expended	\$3,735
Appropriated	4,100
Underrun	\$ 365

EMPLOYER SHARE - FICA/MED

Expended	\$11,350
Appropriated	12,400

Underrun \$1,050

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION

Expended	937
Appropriated	1,050

Underrun \$ 113

INSURANCE

Expended	\$16,751
Appropriated	42,678

Underrun \$25,927

WELFARE

Expended	\$3,895
Appropriated	3,500

Overrun \$ 395

CAPITAL RESERVE FUND

Highway

Expended	\$15,000
Appropriated	15,000
Balance	0

HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

Ambulance	\$11,000
Huggins Hospital	1,100
C.C. Mental Health	1,250
Children Unlimited .....	.475
Community Action Program	1,250
Children's health Center	1,265
Visiting Nurse Service	1,100
Family Health Center	1,120
Domestic Violence .....	.500
Big Brother/Sister .....	.200
Red Cross .....	.480
Expended	\$19,740
Appropriated	19,740
Balance	0

ANIMAL CONTROL

Part time salary	\$639
Other expenses	1,307
Expended	\$1,946
Appropriated	2,000
Underrun	\$ 54

LAKES REGION PLANNING

Expended	\$1,810
Appropriated	1,810
Balance	0

OSSIPEE LAKE DAM AUTHORITY

Expended	\$16,266
Appropriated	16,266
Balance	0

STREET LIGHTS

Expended	\$7,433
Appropriated	8,000
Underrun	\$ 567

WATER PRECINCT

Expended	\$1,000
Appropriated	1,000
Balance	0

LIBRARY

Expended	\$10,200
Appropriated	10,200
Balance	0

PARKS & RECREATION

Old Home Week	\$1,200
Other	1,966
Expended	\$3,166
Appropriated	4,015
Underrun	\$ 849

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Expended	\$ 157
Appropriated	350
Underrun	\$ 193

INTEREST EXPENSE

Tan .....	.6,719
Bond	30,480
Expended	\$37,199
Appropriated	38,480
Underrun	\$1,281

BOND

Expended	\$80,000
Appropriated	80,000
Balance	0

ENHANCED 911

Expended	146
Encumbered	43
Appropriated	\$ 189
Underrun	3,000
	\$2,811

SAFETY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Expended	\$ 813
Encumbered	187
	1,000
Appropriated	1,000
Balance	0

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Village Store Rehab	\$4,344
Pave Young's Hill Road	0
Multipurpose rink	10,000
Rolloff Container	2,000
Fire Truck	98,340
Police Cruiser	19,742
Highway - New Truck	30,900
Hot Top	5,767
Sealing Roads	15,000
Expended	\$186,093
Encumbered	138,115
	324,208
Appropriated	328,597
Underrun	\$4,389

PARKS AND RECREATION REPORT

The Freedom parks & Recreation Committee had a very productive and rewarding year!

In addition to general housekeeping of our parks and beaches, picnic tables and refuse containers were provided, and the construction of the Multi-purpose Rink at the Ballfield became a reality. This spring, the committee plans to erect sides around the rink, landscape and upgrade the ballfield in general.

Many fundraising events were held including a most successful mega-auction at the ballfield, supplemented by generous donations from individuals and organizations.

The Committee thanks the community and friends of Freedom for their continued interest and financial support in our on-going projects to provide recreational facilities and activities for the young and not so young.

STATEMENT OF CONDITION

Balance on hand January 1, 1996	\$2,037.60
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RECEIPTS:

Bank interest, various fundraising activities, donations from individuals and organizations	8,026.11
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TOTAL	\$10,063.71
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DISBURSEMENTS

Line Dancing, raffles, suppers, multi-purpose rink and Little League	\$3,339.28
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------

Balance on Hand December 31, 1996	\$6,724.43
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*Appropriation of \$10,000.00 (March Town Meeting) for Multi Purpose Rink expended by Town Treasury.

Respectfully submitted,
David L. Buswell
Treasurer

FREEDOM PUBLIC LIBRARY'S REPORT

1996 was a busy and productive year for the Freedom Public Library. The preschool Story Hour, under the volunteer leadership of Bonnie and Nathan Ainsworth, was once again a success with several youngsters participating in the stories and crafts. Ellie's summer reading program, Games, was very popular, in fact the program reached its capacity of 28 children. The boys and girls, after reading about, and playing various games such as Checkers, Chess and Cribbage, were awarded certificates. During Old Home Week there was a special program for the children sponsored by the Friends of the Library. The library lawn was the setting for the storyteller and many little ones attended.

The Friends, Librarian, and the Trustees held a successful book sale during the Old Home Week parade and again that week on the day of the Craft Fair.

A minor emergency occurred in February when the flood waters rose in the basement damaging approximately 300 books and the carpet. The clean up crew was put to work and after many hours of vacuuming water and dehumidifying the downstairs was once again open for business. The insurance covered all but \$100 of the assessed damage. In May several volunteers worked hard to spruce up the library grounds and to plant flowers and trim shrubs. In early winter several new book shelves were built upstairs and downstairs to accommodate our growing number of books and help alleviate a shortage of space.

The Librarian, Friends, and Trustees have been enduring the trials and tribulations of "computer literacy" as they help to bring the library into the 21st century. In line with this objective the Trustees attended the New Hampshire Library Trustees Spring Conference in May. A session on library building and expansion was very informative and timely as the library is very crowded and the need for more space is a critical concern. With guidelines provided by the state the Trustees and the Librarian have had numerous meetings discussing and compiling a list of volunteers to serve on a needs assessment committee. Seven members were selected and their task will be to study and analyze the community's library needs and to recommend to a building planning team [to be formed as needed] actions which will meet these needs. The members of this committee represent a diverse group of Freedom residents with a strong commitment to working together with community members in assessing how the library can best meet community needs. This committee will, through the newspaper, open meetings and word of mouth, inform and solicit the help of the townspeople in achieving this goal. The members are: Elizabeth Rhymer, chairperson, Mark Bittner, Eric Bossidy, Lee Fritz, Pat Hatfield, Susan Hoople and Charles Watts.

The library is looking forward to a very happy new year and has already been making plans for some upcoming events. A Spring Fling during National Library Week is scheduled for April and will include not only a book sale but

Town of Freedom, New Hampshire

activities for young and old alike.

Many thanks to our Librarian and to all the patrons, volunteers, and the Friends for their continued interest and support. 1997 promises to be a great year!

Respectfully submitted,
Bette Bossi, Chairperson
H. Edward Reed, Treasurer
Mary S. Hockmeyer, Secretary

Assets on Hand January 1, 1996

Assets on Hand January 1, 1996

Checking Account	\$ 588.18
Savings Account	3,823.74
Centennial C.D. ....	.25.00
Endowment Fund .....	.6,375.87
Moreno Fund .....	.2,267.93
James & Janette Cayford Trust .....	.6,298.00
Fines & Petty Cash .....	.12.72
	<hr/>
	\$ 19,391.44

Received During 1996

Town Appropriation	\$ 10,200.00
Book & Tile Sales .....	.111.50
Copier Income .....	.142.50
Friends of the Library .....	.1,000.00
Wood & Myrick Trust Funds .....	.61.19
Endowment Fund Gifts .....	.500.00
Other Unrestricted Gifts .....	.250.00
Fines .....	.91.50
Interest Received .....	.1,020.01
Reimbursements .....	.542.18
	<hr/>
	\$ 13,918.88

\$33,310.32

Expenditures 1996

Librarian's Salary	\$ 5,304.00
Library Paid FICA & Medicare .....	.405.64
Books & Video .....	.3,296.31
Dues & Conferences .....	.135.00
Electricity .....	.777.60
Grounds .....	.420.00
Heat .....	.655.65
Maintenance .....	.1,005.45
Periodicals .....	.172.80

Postage & Box Rental	54.09
Programs	14.00
Supplies	352.37
Telephone .....	.405.08
Water .....	.290.00
	<hr/>
	\$ 13,287.99

Assets on Hand January 1, 1997

Checking Account	\$ 630.34
Savings Account	3,896.30
Centennial C. D. .....	.25.00
Endowment Fund .....	.6,875.87
Moreno Fund .....	.2,267.93
James & Janette Cayford Trust .....	.6,298.00
Fines & Petty Cash .....	.28.89
	<hr/>
	\$ 20,022.13
	\$ 33,310.32

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

The year 1996 has given the Fire-Rescue Department a couple of exceptional challenges. One being a pickup truck that hit a large pine tree while on the driver's side, heavily trapping the two occupants inside.

The other was a motor vehicle accident with the possibility of 15 people injured.

Those two calls proved that we do not always know what type of situation that we are getting into. Not only with the type of call but the weather conditions or the time of day, it could be 2:00 in the morning at -20 degrees or 11:00 at night at 70 degrees. Another thing that we have to be real careful about is aids and hep b.

The Fire - Rescue Department has an average response time of 2.1 minutes this is actual responding time with the emergency vehicle out of the central station.

What more can I say than the residents of Freedom are very fortunate to have these men and women providing this service. I would like to thank everyone of them for a job well done, these people are not thanked enough.

Respectfully submitted,
Eugene F. Doe, Jr.
Fire-Rescue Chief

	In Town	Mutual Aid	Total
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	.13	.3	16
Fire Alarms .....	.4	.3	7
Brush Fires .....	.4	.1	5
Cover Truck .....	.0	.7	7
Boat Fire .....	.1	.0	1
Vehicle Fire .....	.1	.1	2
Medical .....	.75	.2	77
Chimney-Furnace .....	.3	.0	3
Structure Fires .....	.4	.5	9
Propane Leak .....	.2	.0	2
Smoke Investigation .....	.2	.0	2
Dumpster Fire .....	.2	.0	2
Powerlines .....	.8	.0	8
Service Call .....	.9	.0	9
TOTAL CALLS			150

FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

I would like to thank everyone for their cooperation in obtaining fire permits needed for cooking and burning of brush.

I have to report these to the Mutual Aid which saves the Fire Dept. time and money investigating phone calls reporting fires.

Respectfully submitted,
Carroll Chase
Town Fire Warden

STATE FOREST RANGER & TOWN TOWN FIRE WARDEN'S REPORT

To aid your Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department and State Forest Ranger, contact your local Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required before doing any open burning. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and the other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines of up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail. Violators are also liable for all fire suppression costs.

There are ten Forest Rangers who work for the N.H. Division of Forests and Lands, Forest Protection Bureau. State Forest Rangers are available to assist communities with forest fire suppression, prevention and training programs as well as the enforcement of forest fire and timber harvest laws. If you have any questions regarding forest fire or timber harvest laws please call our office at 271-2217.

The State of New Hampshire operates 15 fire towers, 2 mobile patrols and 3 contract aircraft patrols. This early detection and reports from citizens aid in the quick response from local fire departments.

1996 FIRE STATISTICS (Cost Shared)

FIRES REPORTED BY COUNTY		CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED	
Belknap .....	.06	Smoking .....	.05
Carroll .....	.07	Debris Burning .....	.34
Cheshire .....	.13	Campfire .....	.16
Coos .....	.10	Power Line .....	.04
Grafton .....	.12	Railroad .....	.02
Hillsborough .....	.19	Equipment Use .....	.01
Merrimack .....	.14	Lightning .....	.02
Rockingham .....	.15	Children .....	.22
Strafford .....	.05	OHRV .....	.01
Sullivan .....	.06	Miscellaneous .....	.20
TOTAL FIRES	107		

"REMEMBER, ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES!"

Robert E. Boyd
Forest Ranger

Carroll A. Chase
Forest Fire Warden

CODE OFFICER REPORT

A total of 150 building permits were issued for calendar year 1996, eight of these permits were for new homes. The remaining permits were for sheds, barns, garages, porches and small additions to existing structures. The estimated construction value for these permits to the town tax base would be about 1.6 million dollars.

Permit fees collected for 1996 were \$8,960.00. This is about 100% above the 1996 budget.

Based on the number of inquirers, I anticipate the year 1997 will exceed 1996 in building.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul J. Dorian

ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT REPORT

1996 was the busiest year in recent memory for the Zoning Board (consequently our expenses and income were much higher). The Board held 14 meetings and acted on 19 applications. The most substantial matter was the Appeal by KSC Realty Trust (William and Carol Foord) of an Administrative Decision by the Selectmen and Code Enforcement Officer finding that the use of KSC property for sale of spring water constituted a violation of the residential zoning requirement. After a site visit and three public hearings' the Board found, among other things, that the use of the property was in fact a commercial use and the Board upheld the Administrative Decision.

The Board approved the request of Camp Cody to add a roller hockey rink to its facility, found that Freedom Hardware had established a limited pre-existing use of auto and equipment sales, and granted a special exception to Les Babb to sell used vehicles in the commercial zone. Conditions were attached to each of this approvals.

The Board approved three requests for- home occupations and three setback variances for new construction on pre-existing substandard lots. The Board denied two and granted one setback variance requests for additions to existing buildings, and denied a variance request to add a one-bedroom residence in the post office building. The Board approved a special exception request for a halfway house. Board approvals generally contain conditions, and sometimes specify oversight by the Conservation Commission.

On all occasions involving wetlands, water courses, and/or septic systems, the Board seeks the input of the Conservation Commission. The Commission has been very prompt and helpful in its responses. The Board is always appreciative of input from other town organizations and individual citizens. We encourage your attendance and comments.

Since the formation of the Board in 1987, one member has been designated clerk, and been responsible for minutes, public notices, and all mailings to abutters and applicants. Because the increasing case load makes it difficult for a sitting member to complete these tasks in addition to preparing for and participating in meetings, the Board has determined that the time I has come to hire a secretary. Application fees will cover the cost. Anyone interested in assisting the Board should contact me, or our beleaguered clerk, Howard Bouve.

Respectfully submitted,
Deborah A. Fauver, Chair

POLICE REPORT

As we embark on another year, I take this opportunity to reflect back on 1996. I'm proud to announce that the addition of the second fulltime officer has proven to be a real success.

Officer Pearson after being hired fulltime in March successfully completed the 12 week Police Academy in Concord. He represented the Town well in that he was chosen as a squad leader and achieved a high grade point average academically.

The Grant under which Officer Pearson received this fulltime status, as we expected proved to be very beneficial to the Department and financially beneficial to the Town.

We answered a total of 578 calls for service in 1996. The most frequently answered calls were:

Alarms	65
Juvenile Issues	38
Motor Vehicle Accidents	38
Domestic Disputes	72
Burglaries	27

We had 166 motor vehicle stops and 18 arrests.

In the year to come we will continue to look for new and better ways of being productive Law Enforcement Officers. One way we will be doing this in 1997 will be on special police bikes. Thanks to donations from Camp Huckins and Joe Jones Sport Shop we will have 2 police bikes on patrol. We plan to use these bikes in areas where burglaries are most frequent.

I take this opportunity to thank the Town Officials, the Department Heads, the Citizens of Freedom and all the members of the Freedom Police Department for their dedication and a job well done. Also a special thanks to Karen Hatch and Ernie Day for their help and hard work with all the paperwork that goes along with the grant. Thanks!

Respectfully submitted,
Jack Pyne
Chief of Police

CONSERVATION COMMISSION'S REPORT

As in previous years, the main business of the Commission is to monitor wetlands permits with particular emphasis on docks and shoreline modification. In that respect 1996 has been quite active. The Commission makes every effort to view the area of any proposed activity prior to making recommendations.

At the 1995 Town Meeting the citizens voted unanimously to give the Conservation Commission a parcel of property (Map 12, Lot 27-2) "to be held forever and in perpetuity". This was accomplished in late October.

The Selectmen are in the process of acquiring 6 parcels of land from Jack Middleton. The current plan is for the Conservation Commission to monitor these properties. Included in these parcels are access lots to the Ossipee River, Loon Lake and Round Pond. The transfer should occur in early 1997.

The Commission is still looking for someone to be an alternate member. Anyone who is interested should contact any Commission member.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Grant, Co-chairman
Barry Keith, Co-chairman
Tina Goode, Secretary
Susan Hoople
William Klotz
Malcolm Reed, Alternate

OSSIPEE LAKE DAM AUTHORITY'S REPORT

This is the sixth year of operations, there were regular meetings as follows:

Jan. 10,1996 Ossipee
Apr. 17,1996 Freedom

July 10,1996 Ossipee
Oct. 9,1996 Cancelled

1995 Remaining Balance \$ 1,672.18

1996 Appropriations

Ossipee	\$12,062.00
Freedom	<u>16,265.82</u>
	\$ 30,000.00

Less Expenses

Nynex monitoring circuits	\$ 379.20
AT&T monitoring circuits .....	.65.16
Aleska Const.-snow plowing .....	.252.00
N.H. Water Resources Conn.(Gauges)	4,900.00
P.S.N.H. Electricity .....	.151.73
Skehan Home Center .....	.92.55
Sec./Treas. Sal. .....	.100.00
Postage .....	.10.20
Dam Operators Sal. ....	.2,000.00
Legal .....	.20.83
Check Printing .....	.17.62
Ossipee Auto Parts	<u>.36.56</u>
	\$ 8,025.85

Income

Interest	<u>\$141 . 59</u>
	\$ 22,115.74

1997 Appropriations (Estimate)

Ossipee	\$4,362.71
Freedom	<u>3,498.02</u>
	\$ 29,976.47

Respectfully Submitted,
William O. Cutler
Secretary/Treasurer

ROAD AGENT REPORT

The 1996 season has been very challenging and busy for the Highway Department grew.

The Highway Garage got a complete interior cleaning, painting, and organization. Lockers were built for the employees safety equipment. Safety issues were addressed. A complete inspection and maintenance service was done to all equipment.

- The reconstruction of N. Broad Bay Road was finalized.
- Construction of a Roller Rink
- Necessary improvements included the following:
 1. Reconstruction and Grading of the School Driveway and Parking Areas
 2. Reconstruction of Lovering's Corner (State shared)
 3. Graveling Ossipee Lake Road shoulders
 4. 360 feet of culvert replacement and ditch work done to the following roads: Camp Huckins, Bennett, Watson Hill, Burnham, Freedom Point, Scarboro, & Youngs Hill
 5. Magnesium Chloride Dust Control were applied to the following roads: Camp Huckins, Haverhill, St., Pauli Point, Pequawket Trail, Shawtown, W. Danforth Bay, Marina, North Broad Bay, Freedom Point, Round Pond, Scarboro, & Burnham
 6. The beginning construction work was started on Youngs Hill Road to make ready for 1500 feet of new pavement.
 7. Road signs put in place for 911 purposes
 8. Hot-top Overlay placed on 3500 ft. of Camp Huckins Road

A heavy rain/wind storm (over 8 inches of rain) broke One Hundred Year Records on October 19-21st. The first snow storm came on November 25th followed by more of December's heavy rain and ice storms.

All that has been accomplished—are the results of choices and decisions made with Safety in mind to reward us all.

The year is ending with pride behind me, new goals, a readiness for hope ahead, with a greater imagination.

Thank you, to our Town Officials,, Department Heads, and Citizens for your support.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott N. Brooks, Sr.
Road Agent

MT. WASHINGTON VALLEY ECONOMIC COUNCIL REPORT

1996 has been an exciting year for the Mt. Washington Valley Economic Council. Our twelve town region has benefited from the efforts of our 30 member volunteer board. We have tried to be the organization that listens to business people, educators, elected officials, State agencies and other organizations as we focus on meeting our mission and goals. Some of the highlights for 1996 include: the wiring of the region into the Internet; completion and distribution of the Vision 20/20 survey to help guide growth and the quality of life in the region; approval of a \$100,000 per year for 2 years Capacity Building Grant to hire a fulltime Executive Director and of office assistant to work directly with businesses and local government on Community Block grants and our own revolving loan fund program; success in obtaining town's support from 9 out of our 12 towns in our region based on equalized valuations; support from the Northern NH Foundation has provided operational and program funds, while a grant from the Ham Foundation made the purchase of computer equipment possible; educational forums addressing municipal cooperation with the Selectmen and Planning Board members; a Maine Sales Tax Forum, addressing concerns and rights of N.H. businesses; an informational forestry forum addressing the challenges facing the forestry industry and value added products; an anticipated reopening of a local employment of office (a result from needs expressed at the forestry forum), a highly successful and informative annual meeting (standing room only) with guest speakers Gov. elect Jean Shaheen, and Cranmore's new owner George Gillett; Energy forums addressing the cost of fossil fuels and examining our alternatives; "Economically Speaking", MWVEC'S newsletter made it's debut and will be published quarterly to keep our town's people informed and abreast of our activities; and finally, increased membership and corporate sponsorship support.

As we begin a new year, the Council will be relocating to Conway village. This new site will also include the establishment of A one-stop small business resource center. To keep in touch with business needs and issues, monthly business leader's breakfasts will be held beginning in March. The Business Visitation Program will shift into high gear through out the region in hopes providing support and economic opportunities for all who live and work in the Mt. Washington Valley. MWVEC welcomes public input and volunteers to serve on our committees. Your involvement in our programs will help make them more successful. MWVEC can make a difference.

Respectfully submitted,
David Sorensen
President

TOWN AUDITOR'S REPORT

I certify that I have examined the financial records and accounts of the Selectmen, Town Treasurer, Town Clerk, Library Trustees and the Trustees of the Trust Funds for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1996 and have found that the receipts and disbursements are in agreement with the respective entries for all accounts.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ernest F. Day
Town Auditor

REPORT OF THE TRUST FUNDS OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM, NH

December 31, 1996

Date	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose	How Invested	PRINCIPAL		INCOME		Balance End of Year	Principal & Income
				Balance Start of Year	New Funds	Expended During Year	Balance End of Year		
COMMON TRUST									
1919	Nancy Skillings	Cemetery P/C	Bank CD	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1919	Nancy Burns	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15
1922	Lord & Fowler	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15
1922	Eliza A. Alley	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1924	Ina E. Foss	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1924	Metcalf & Cushing	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1924	M C & Stephen Allard	"	"	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	8.37
1924	Edward H. Nason	"	"	210.00	0.00	0.00	210.00	0.00	11.71
1925	A R & Lilla Bennett	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1927	F W Towle	"	"	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	27.89
1927	Parsons Yard	"	"	700.00	0.00	0.00	700.00	0.00	39.04
1927	J C Libby & V H Connors Lots	"	"	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	27.89
1928	John W Smith	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1928	Jennie Meserve	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1932	James Wood	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1935	George W Chase	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1937	Joseph H Corson	"	"	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	0.00	2.79
1937	Hulda J Downing	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15
1938	Godfrey Fund	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1939	Frank B Corson	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1939	Lavinia F Farnsworth	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1939	Howard B Moulton	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1940	Ellen Mitchel	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58
1941	Stevens, Sweetser, Marston, Harmon	"	"	450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	25.10

Date	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose	How Invested	PRINCIPAL			INCOME			Balance Start of Year	Balance End of Year	Balance End of Year	Total Principal & Income
				Balance Start of Year	New Funds	Expended During Year	Current Year Income	Expended During Year					
COMMON TRUST													
1943	Jessie Drew	Cemetery P/C	Bank CD	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1948	Jessie S Allard	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1952	Minnie R Towle	"	"	112.00	0.00	0.00	112.00	0.00	6.25	0.00	6.25	0.00	112.00
1952	John J Giles	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1953	Carrie B Moses	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1957	Minnie A Eastman	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	0.00	11.15	0.00	200.00
1957	F M Meloon & J M Parsons	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	0.00	11.15	0.00	200.00
1958	Elsie M Thurston	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1958	Ernest A Leavitt	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1958	Kezar Cemetery Fund	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	0.00	11.15	0.00	200.00
1958	Moulton Cemetery	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	0.00	11.15	0.00	200.00
1959	George & Alfreda Hayes	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	0.00	11.15	0.00	200.00
1960	Chester H Drake	"	"	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	27.89	0.00	27.89	0.00	500.00
1963	Emelie P Holmgren	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1963	Charles H Watts	"	"	450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	25.10	0.00	25.10	0.00	450.00
1963	Nelson C Works	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1965	Giles Lot - Swetts Hill	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1965	Cutting Lot	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1965	Andrews Lot	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	0.00	11.15	0.00	200.00
1966	Lord Cemetery	"	"	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00	111.54	0.00	111.54	0.00	2,000.00
1966	Florence Seymour	"	"	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	27.89	0.00	27.89	0.00	500.00
1968	John Works	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1968	John C & Marie Lee	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1968	Jesse Nason & Beck Lot	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1969	Albert Phinney	"	"	150.00	0.00	0.00	150.00	0.00	8.37	0.00	8.37	0.00	150.00
1969	Drake Lot	"	"	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	16.73	0.00	16.73	0.00	300.00
1972	Lord Lot	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1973	B F Allard & J Durgin	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00
1976	Charles Bryant Lot	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	0.00	5.58	0.00	100.00

Date	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose	How Invested	PRINCIPAL			INCOME			Balance End of Year	Principal & Income
				Balance Start of Year	New Funds	Expended During Year	Balance Start of Year	Current Year Income	Expended During Year		
COMMON TRUST											
1977	David Smith Lot	Cemetery P/C	Bank CD	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
1977	Albion & Alanzo Pease Lot	"	Bank CD	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	11.15	0.00 200.00
1982	Winston V & Margaret Morrow	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
1982	Stephen & Elmira Danforth	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
1987	Ernest & Rachel Mulverly	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	11.15	0.00 200.00
1988	Gordon D. Stokes	"	"	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	16.73	16.73	0.00 300.00
1988	Pauline Sargent Rounds	"	"	200.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	11.15	11.15	0.00 200.00
1988	Abe Sargent	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
1988	Frederick & Elisabeth Towle	"	"	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	16.73	16.73	0.00 300.00
1988	Mary S Morrison	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
1989	Charles & Mary H Stewart	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
1989	William A & Sally Stoops	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
1989	David Sargent	"	"	40.00	0.00	0.00	40.00	0.00	2.23	2.23	0.00 40.00
TOTAL CEMETERY FUNDS				\$13,312.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$13,312.00	\$0.00	\$742.44	\$742.44	\$0.00 \$13,312.00
1938	Belinda C Wood	Library	Bank CD	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	55.77	55.77	0.00 1,000.00
1985	Ernest Myrick	"	"	100.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	5.58	5.58	0.00 100.00
TOTAL LIBRARY FUNDS				\$1,100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,100.00	\$0.00	\$61.35	\$61.35	\$0.00 \$1,100.00
TOTAL COMMON TRUST FUNDS				\$14,412.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$14,412.00	\$0.00	\$803.79	\$803.79	\$0.00 \$14,412.00

Date	Name of Trust Fund	Purpose	How Invested	Balance Start of Year	PRINCIPAL Expended During Year	Balance End of Year	Balance Start of Year	INCOME Current Year Income	Expenditures During Year	Transfer To Principal	Total Principal & Income
GENERAL FUNDS											
1996 School District	Spec Ed	Bank CD	.00	3,025.38	\$0.00	3,025.38	\$0.00	25.38	0.00	25.38	3,025.38
TOTAL GENERAL FUNDS				\$0.00	\$3,025.38	\$0.00	\$3,025.38	\$25.38	\$0.00	\$25.38	\$3,025.38

CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS:

1996 School District	Bus	Bank CD	.00	15,117.10	0.00	.15,117.10	0.00	117.10	0.00	117.10	15,117.10
1990 Fire Department	Truck	Bank CD	122,499.42	1,576.24	.92,499.42	31,576.24	6,360.01	4,552.82	9,336.59	1,576.24	31,576.24
1990 Highway Department	Equip	Bank CD	16,413.95	0.00	16,413.95	0.00	2,004.18	2,378.22	374.04	0.00	0.00
TOTAL CAPITAL RESERVES			\$138,913.37	\$16,693.34	\$108,913.37	\$46,693.34	\$8,364.19	\$5,043.96	\$11,744.81	\$1,693.34	\$46,693.34
TOTAL ALL TRUST FUNDS			\$153,325.37	\$19,718.72	\$108,913.37	\$64,130.72	\$8,364.19	\$5,873.13	\$12,518.60	\$1,718.72	\$64,130.72

REPORT OF THE COMMON TRUST FUNDS OF THE TOWN OF FREEDOM, NH

December 31, 1996

Description of Investment	Purpose	How Invested	Balance Start of Year	PRINCIPAL Gains or Losses	Balance New Funds	Balance Start of Year	INCOME Current Year Income	Expenditures During Year	Balance End of Year	Total Principal & Income	
Bank of New Hampshire	Cem P/C	CD	13,312.00	0.00	0.00	13,312.00	0.00	742.44	742.44	0.00	13,312.00
Bank of New Hampshire	Library	CD	1,100.00	0.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.00	61.35	61.35	0.00	1,100.00
TOTALS			\$ 14,412.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$14,412.00	\$0.00	\$803.79	\$803.79	\$0.00	\$14,412.00

**BIRTHS REGISTERED
IN THE TOWN OF FREEDOM
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1996**

Date of Birth	Name of Child	Name of Father	Name of Mother	Place of Birth
03-01-96	McKinley, Devan Lynn	McKinley, Paul Allan	McKinley, Trudi Susan	N. Conway
04-13-96	Doran, Dylan Nathaniel-Edward	Doran, Craig Evan	Doran, Christina Lynn	N. Conway
07-01-96	Mazerolle, Jackson Lewis	Mazerolle, Christopher Allen	Mazerolle, Alyse Renee	Nashua
07-08-96	Boewe, Elizabeth Ann	Boewe, George Rhodes, Jr.	Boewe, Patricia Lee	N. Conway
08-21-96	Libby, Jacob Stephen	Libby, Eric Stephen	Libby, Sharon Elizabeth	Wolfeboro
12-05-96	Libby, Harold William III	Libby, Harold William Jr.	Chaplin, Michelle Lynn	No. Conway
12-05-96	Taylor, Bruce Russell III	Taylor, Bruce Russell Jr.	Arguin, Cheryl Ann	No. Conway
12-06-96	Ward, Aidan Lewis	Ward, Jason Michael	Harkins, Cristin Joy	No. Conway

Respectfully submitted,
A. Elizabeth Priebe, Town Clerk

DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF FREEDOM FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1996

Date of Death	Place of Death	Name of Deceased	Father's Name	Mother's Maiden Name
01-24-96	Wolfe.	MacIntosh, Gregory Raymond	Unknown	MacIntosh, Charlotte
04-21-96	Freedom	Gallant, Patricia Maud	Stewart, Benjamin E.	Bridges, Nellie Isabelle
04-24-96	N. Con.	Gardner, Thomas	Gardner, Alfred	Miller, Edith Jane
04-27-96	N. Con.	Granger, Frederick Joseph, Jr.	Granger, Frederick Joseph, Sr.	Penney, Clissy Mae
09-02-96	Ossipee	Schenker, Hanssen	Schenker, Frank P.	Hanssen, Elizabeth
09-17-96	Manch.	Dwyer, H. William	Dwyer, David	Lee, Violet
09-29-96	Freedom	Gafner, Frederick Albert	Gafner, Charles E.	Kanwischer, Ella
10-20-96	Wolfe.	Coit, Everett L.	Coit, Edgar	King, Sarah M.
10-20-96	Wolfe.	White, Lucy Marie	Pratt, Wm.	Madel, Lucy N.
12-22-96	Freedom	Thompson, Hazel Irene	Thurston, Orin Bert	Varney, Beta May

Respectfully submitted,
A. Elizabeth Priebe, Town Clerk

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN THE TOWN OF FREEDOM FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1996

Date	Name and Surname of Groom and Bride	Residence at Time of Marriage
09-07-96	Ferkins, David Richard Porter, Amanda Jane	Columbus, OH Columbus, OH
09-14-96	Murray, Peter Gordon Clark, Abigail Beth	Gorham, ME Gorham, ME
09-14-96	Lees, Warren Scott III Meers, Jennifer Ann	Freedom, NH Freedom, NH
10-12-96	Bartlett, Jason Lindon Taylor, Melissa Deborah	Brownfield, ME Freedom, NH
10-12-96	Gardner, Mark Steven Nason, Tammy Lin	Freedom, NH Freedom, NH
11-23-96	Rogers, Ronald Wayne Smith, Michelle Elizabeth	Freedom, NH Freedom, NH

Respectfully submitted,
A. Elizabeth Priebe, Town Clerk

NOTES

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SELECTMEN

Richard J. Goff, Chairman
Mark. R. Bittner
Robert J. Daly

Office Hours: Monday 6:30 to 8pm
Telephone: 539-6323

TOWN CLERK

A. Elizabeth Priebe

Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday
Evenings 6:30 to 8pm
Saturday: 9am to 12 noon
Telephone: 539-8269

TAX COLLECTOR

Thomas Kondrat

Office Hours: First Tuesday 7-9pm
Telephone: 539-5572

CODES OFFICER

Paul Dorian

Office Hours: Monday 7 to 9pm
Home Telephone: 539-5195

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday 8am to 1pm
Telephone: 539-6323

SELECTMENS' HOLIDAY CLOSING

Memorial Day 5/26/97
Independence Day 7/4/97 &
7/7/97
Labor Day 9/1/97
Columbus Day 10/13/97
Veteran's Day 11/11/97
Thanksgiving Day 7/27/97
Christmas 12/25/97 & 12/29/97
New Years Day 1/01/98
Civil Rights Day 1/19/98
President's Day 2/16/98

TOWN CLERK'S HOLIDAY CLOSING

Memorial Day 5/27/96
Old Home Day 8/9/97
Labor Day 9/1/97
Columbus Day 10/13/97
Christmas Eve 12/24/97
New Years Eve 12/31/97
Civil Rights Day 1/19/98
President's Day 2/16/98

TRANSFER/RECYCLING FACILITY***Winter Hours:***

Wed. 12 noon to 4pm
Sat. 9am to 4pm
Sun. 12 noon to 4pm

Summer Hours:

Sun. 12 noon to 5pm
Tues. 12 noon to 5pm
Thurs. 12 noon to 5pm
Sat. 8am to 5pm

